

Release voted for all 330 French

Heath frees 33 Britons held hostage in Iraq

By NICHOLAS BEESTON IN BAGHDAD AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE former prime minister Edward Heath was flying out of Baghdad last night with 33 freed British hostages after his "humanitarian mission" to Iraq.

Another four or five have been given permission to leave, but were not ready for last night's flight. A further five are to have their cases reviewed, and Mr Heath won a promise that about 30 detainees would be allowed home when their contracts expired at the end of the month.

Although the number freed yesterday was well short of the 200 on the list given to President Saddam Hussein on Sunday, Mr Heath said that those returning home represented most of the deserving cases. "I would obviously have liked to have had all the British return home," he told a press conference, "but I am satisfied."

Besides the Britons released yesterday, 14 Americans were allowed to fly to Amman, and the Iraqi parliament voted to free all 330 French captives in Iraq and occupied Kuwait.

Final details of the British party, which included two pet dogs, were announced only

two hours before the Virgin Atlantic jumbo jet touched down in Baghdad. Richard Branson, the airline owner, arrived with a 13-strong medical team and equipment including a makeshift intensive care unit.

The airline had offered places on the flight to hopeful relatives, but only Frank and Diane Hessey decided to travel. Their journey proved worthwhile as Mr Hessey's sister, Maureen Wilbraham, and her husband Tony, who is suffering from lung cancer, were among those freed.

Mary Wright, aged 70, of Musselburgh in Scotland, and her husband Jim, were also allowed out. "I only found out I was going home when the ambassador phoned me and asked if I could have my things packed in six seconds," Mrs Wright said. "The first thing I will do when I get home is tear up my passport."

There was disappointment, however, for 43 British nurses and about 150 transit passengers who had been aboard a British Airways flight and were trapped in Kuwait when Iraq invaded on August 2. There are now an estimated 1,300 Britons caught in the two countries.

Mr Heath said it was for others to judge whether his mission had been a success. "All I know is that all those going back will be grateful and so will their relatives," he denied that his visit had been a public relations victory for Iraq and insisted that there had been no negotiations on political matters, but he reiterated that the confrontation could and should be resolved by peaceful means.

As he spoke, there were further indications of an all-Arab initiative. While Saudi Arabia was anxious to reassure its Western allies that suggestions by its defence minister that Kuwait might constitute a relaxing of its demand for an unconditional withdrawal, King Fahd made what was seen as his most conciliatory approach to President Saddam.

The king assured the Iraqi leader that he would not lose face if he withdrew. "It would be nothing to cause anxiety or pain, but to the contrary, He

will find it is in the interest of Iraq, in his personal interest and in the interest of the Arab nation that he pull out from Kuwait." If President Saddam acted on the advice, "I think he will get thanks."

Western observers said there was a growing distinction between Arab public statements and those from Western leaders. President Bush did his best to quash talk of compromise by accusing President Saddam of crimes against humanity. "There can never be compromise, any compromise with this kind of aggression," he said during a campaign speech in Burlington, Vermont. "It isn't oil we're concerned about, it is aggression. And this aggression is not going to stand."

"Good God. This is the man starving out small embassies. There's a parallel between what Hitler did to Poland and what Saddam Hussein has done to Kuwait."

"You know what happened in Kuwait the other day? Two young kids, 15, passing out leaflets. Iraqi soldiers came, got their parents out and made them watch as they shot them. They had people on dialysis machines and they ripped them off and sent the dialysis machines to Baghdad. And they had kids in incubators and they threw them out so Kuwait could be systematically dismantled."

Margaret Thatcher and the exiled emir of Kuwait also underlined their resolve to make Iraq withdraw during talks in Downing Street yesterday.

Prince Bandar bin Sultan, the Saudi ambassador to Washington, yesterday visited the State Department to insist that there had been no change of policy in his country. But Jay Kosminsky, of the Washington-based Heritage Foundation, said: "Clearly they are signalling a softening. The longer we delay and the less resolve we show, the more the Saudis will think that maybe they are going to have to live with Saddam Hussein and look for ways to accommodate him."



MI acid scare: Firemen wearing protective clothing and breathing apparatus to tackle a spillage of hydro-bromic acid after a multiple accident on the M1 near Luton airport

yesterday (Kevin Eason writes). More than 30 drivers and police needed treatment after inhaling toxic fumes from fractured drums and residents of the nearby village of Slip End were

warned to keep windows and doors shut. The accident, which happened at 6.45am, led to the closure of the motorway in both directions and tailbacks of 25 miles as traffic funnelled down side

roads. The M1 northbound was reopened at lunchtime but the south-bound carriageway is likely to be closed throughout today at least while the traces of the acid are cleared up.

Lawson attacks 'tragedy' of ERM

By ROBIN OAKLEY
POLITICAL EDITOR

NIGEL Lawson, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, yesterday attacked the prime minister and John Major, his successor, by indicating support for Labour's claim that they had taken Britain into the exchange-rate mechanism of the European monetary system for short-term political reasons.

In the Commons debate on ERM, Mr Lawson welcomed Britain's entry, but declared that it was a "real tragedy" that it had not gone in at least five years ago, as his former Cabinet colleagues could testify he had been urging. The former Chancellor sided publicly with the Bank of England against the government by saying that it would have been wiser to have gone into the ERM first and to have cut interest rates later. Britain would now pay the price for linking the two moves, he said.

The resultant cynicism in the markets would make it harder to achieve further interest rate cuts as soon as might have been possible if things had been done the other way around.

Shortly before Mr Lawson spoke, Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, had accused the prime minister of agreeing to British entry into the ERM only because she needed to take a percentage point interest rate cut to the Conservative conference.

Tory MPs were clearly shaken by Mr Lawson's intervention and the extent of his willingness to reverse himself on the prime minister's year after his departure from the Cabinet on the ERM issue. But it was only his third Commons speech since resigning as chancellor and in every one he has argued the case for ERM entry.

Mr Lawson, who never mentioned Mrs Thatcher

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Newton to announce child benefit increase

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CHILD benefit is to be increased by about £1 a week for the first child at a cost of about £250 million in a social security budget settlement to be announced today by Tony Newton.

The social security secretary will seek to reassure the Conservatives' claim to be the party of the family by disclosing that the three-year freeze on a benefit that costs the Treasury £4.6 billion a year is to be partly ended. Full uprating would have cost £390 million after taking into account consequent reductions in payments to families on income support.

Mr Newton will tell MPs that the weekly payment of £7.25 for first-born children is to be increased by £1.25 from next April. Nearly seven million mothers will gain from the increase. Rates for other children will remain frozen.

The level of the increase will be more than a straight uprating in line with inflation, which is running at 10.9 per cent. The reasoning behind the formula is that it conforms with Tory policy of targeting benefit increases, it will help first-time mothers when they give up work, and it will prove attractive to women who decide to resume a career after

having a child but want help with nursery costs.

Mr Newton has considered a related option advanced by the Centre for Policy Studies, a leading right-wing think-tank, which wanted full uprating for children under five at about half the cost of the chosen solution. Although this option is much cheaper it was not adopted because it would mean taking money off mothers once their children started school.

Mr Newton's announcement is bound to be widely welcomed by Conservative MPs, who are badly in need of some good news after the party's drubbing in the Eastbourne by-election. It will be seen as a remarkable victory for Mr Newton, one of the cabinet's less glamorous figures, in his long-running struggle with the Treasury.

Tory MPs are also likely to give some of the credit to Margaret Thatcher after her eleventh-hour intervention in which she summoned both Mr Newton and Norman Lamont, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, to No 10 for talks on Mr Newton's annual social security package, which will rise to £60 billion next year. However after the disclosure that she did no more than endorse a package drawn up a week ago between her two

cabinet colleagues, some Conservatives will be reluctant to switch the spotlight away from Mr Newton.

Backbenchers will view the move as lending them powerful ammunition in the battle for votes in the run-up to the next election. While Mrs Thatcher and her closest policy advisers have identified the family as a key battleground, Labour has been making most of the running, particularly among young women, as it has trumpeted its proposals on social issues such as health, education and child care. Now the Tories have a platform from which to launch a counter-attack.

Last night, as Labour got wind of today's announcement, the party launched a pre-emptive strike, saying that an extra £1 a week for the first child was a mere sop offered by a government panicked by the Eastbourne result and the realisation of the unpopularity of its perpetual freeze.

Cost of children, page 6
Leading article, page 13

Bad teachers' pay penalty

John MacGregor, the education secretary, warned bad teachers that they could no longer expect automatic annual pay rises based on their length of service. He told the Interim Pay Committee on Teachers Pay that he expected it to advise schools and local authorities that they could withhold pay rises from "ineffective" teachers. Under the pay and conditions agreement signed by teachers it has always been open for employers to refuse to pay regular rises but in reality the power has been rarely used. Page 5

Pay rise demand, page 7

MP dies

Norman Buchan, the Labour MP for Paisley South, died yesterday at the age of 67. There is also a by-election pending in Paisley North following the death last month of Allen Adams. Page 7

Obituary, page 14

Supermarriage



Wow! Pow! Superman, in the guise of mild-mannered reporter Clark Kent, is about to take the plunge - not into a storm-tossed sea from 5,000 feet but into matrimony with his colleague of 52 years, delectable Lois Lane. Page 9

Receiver threat

Polity Peck International, the fruit trading and electronics group, faces the appointment of administrative receivers today unless it can produce up to £30 million from deposits in northern Cyprus to satisfy bank demands. Pages 25, 27

Manager fined

Arsenal fined their manager, George Graham, and five players after the brawl at Manchester United. Page 42

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Economy facing a technical recession

By ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

TREASURY officials are understood to believe that a brief "technical" recession in the economy is now almost inevitable.

Ministers are being given warnings that the gross domestic product is likely to decline in the third and fourth quarters. It will be the first sequence of two consecutive declines in GDP since 1981. This is the standard definition of recession used by most economists.

Despite this, officials believe the decline in output will prove short-lived and shallow. They think it unlikely that GDP will fall for as long as a full year, and virtually exclude the possibility of a downturn as severe as the last two recessions in 1973-75 and 1979-81 when GDP declined for almost two years running. Nevertheless, the realisation

tion that the economy is moving into recession is said to have played a crucial role in the decision to cut interest rates and enter the European exchange-rate mechanism.

The Association of British Chambers of Commerce has added its voice to the growing chorus in industry, the City, and Westminster which fears the economy has entered a recession.

In what is believed to be its most extensive business survey to date, the association reports a dramatic deterioration in domestic manufacturing orders and exports, and recession spreading to the service sector. The "severe recession" identified in the survey of 6,000 companies challenges the Treasury view of a pause in growth.

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Easy target, page 2

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Delors unveils vision of a federal Europe

From MICHAEL BINYON IN STRASBOURG

JAQUES DELORS yesterday unveiled for the first time the EC Commission's vision of a future federal Europe, with the European Parliament as its legislature, the Commission as its executive and the Council of Ministers as its senate.

The president of the commission also called for majority voting in those areas where decisions are still made unanimously: tax, social affairs, the environment, agriculture and energy, and called for the gradual integration of foreign and defence policy in the EC.

M Delors also challenged "our British friends" to come

clean and say whether they wanted a Community or merely a group of nation states. If it was the latter, they should say so clearly. His waspish remarks to MEPs came after a joint meeting with EC foreign ministers to discuss political union and parliament's demands for greater power and the right to propose legislation.

M Delors and most EC governments strongly opposed Strasbourg sharing such power with Brussels. This

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Missile project, page 10

Cathedral choir becomes nuclear powered

By RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS REPORTER

THE power was added to the glory yesterday, when a nuclear power company announced a £250,000 sponsorship of one of the country's top cathedral choirs. In return for providing £25,000 a year for 10 years, Nuclear Electric, based in Bristol, will have its logo featured on song books, records and cathedral literature. A plaque will commemorate the liaison, although the choir's red and white cassocks and surplices will remain logo-free. Hymns and canticles will not be sung to order, although the choirists will be available to perform at some Nuclear Electric functions.

Bristol cathedral choir is believed to be the first sponsored by a single industry, but at least two other cathedrals, Salisbury and Ely, are considering launching plans to obtain business

sponsorship for their choristers. Nuclear Electric, the company responsible for Britain's nuclear power stations, launched the choir deal at the city-centre cathedral under the heading "The Power and the Glory". The deal has guaranteed the future of the choir of 18 boys from Bristol Cathedral School, lay clerks and choral scholars, which costs more than £35,000 a year to run.

The cathedral, which earlier this year announced £500,000 sponsorship of a new visitors' centre by the Gateway supermarket, is also seeking business help for its sub-standard lighting and historic flooring, badly in need of repair.

William Waldegrave, the Foreign Office minister, who is chairman of the Bristol Cathedral Trust, said the choral tradition could now carry on into the 21st century.

Canon Dennis Green, of Ely Cathedral, said an attempt to find sponsorship

for individual choristers about seven years ago did not succeed. The choir accounts for a large proportion of the annual £250,000 cost of worship: the cathedral pays bursaries for choristers to attend The King's School in Ely. One idea is to put a sponsor's name on the medallion worn by the choristers.

The dean at Salisbury said finance was being sought for a new girls' choir to be launched next September. The Very Rev Hugh Dickinson said: "We have thrown the idea of sponsorship around but it is still pretty nebulous."

Stanley Kjaer, director of the Christian Association of Business Executives, said: "Powerful patrons in the Middle Ages and before built cathedrals. It is very appropriate that their equivalent should keep them going today."

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Diary, page 12

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Threat of humiliation led Marsh to shoot Warren, court told

By MICHAEL HORNELL

THE former world boxing champion Terry Marsh tried to murder his manager by shooting him through the chest because he faced humiliation and financial ruin after their partnership had turned sour, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

He was entangled in a libel action with the boxing promoter Frank Warren, while still under contract to him, and owed more than £22,000 in VAT that he could not pay. Threatened with exposure as a "cheat and a liar" if he lost the high court action, he fired two shots from close range at Mr Warren outside an east London theatre, the jury was told.

Mr Warren, aged 38, who was suing the boxer over an allegation that he had allowed him to fight in spite of knowing that he was epileptic and unfit, was lucky to recover. The court was later told that Mr Marsh, aged 32, had admitted the shooting to a fellow remand prisoner at Wormwood Scrubs prison.

Mr Marsh, a former fireman and world light welterweight champion, denies the attempted murder of his manager on the night of November 30, 1989.

Ann Curnow, QC, for the prosecution, told the jury the story of the deteriorating relationship between the two men. Mr Warren was a self-made businessman who had become a noted boxing manager when he spotted Mr Marsh, who was in the Royal Marines, as a fighter with great potential.

Mr Marsh, of Besidon, Essex, signed his first contract with Mr Warren in September 1984 and was still under contract to him until last month. He had an unbeaten run while the two were in partnership and became world champion in March 1987, retaining the title the following July.

In September 1987 Mr Marsh signed a contract to defend his world title. Two days earlier he had passed a rigorous medical, but in the meantime a story appeared in *The Sun* effectively stating that Mr Marsh had epilepsy, sufferers of which are not allowed to box.

Miss Curnow said that the story implied that Mr Warren knew of his boxer's condition and to him this was a serious slur. Mr Warren issued a writ for libel against *The Sun* which was settled out of court. From this time the relationship deteriorated and Mr Marsh developed feelings of resentment and dislike for Mr Warren, Miss Curnow said.

Mr Warren, who had arranged for Mr Marsh to be a con-

mentator for ITV, saw to it that the boxer's services were terminated. A dispute over payments due under the contract followed. Meanwhile, the British Boxing Board of Control withdrew Mr Marsh's licence leaving him without an income at a time when he owed £22,000 to Customs and Excise.

Then, in January 1989, Mr Marsh appeared on television and explained that the dizzy spells from which he had suffered had not been caused by epilepsy. The interviewer questioned him closely, however, about his signing a contract when he believed himself to be suffering from epilepsy.

Miss Curnow said: "Marsh said he had told everyone who needed to know. Not just these words were important, but the way he said it there was the clearest implication again that Warren had known all along that he was signing a contract with a boxer who was unfit."

Mr Warren strongly rejected the suggestion and a libel writ was issued against Mr Marsh, who put forward a defence of justification in which he said that Mr Warren had known about his condition. By this stage Mr Marsh was in serious financial difficulties and was forced to disperse with his legal advisers, whom he could not pay.

Miss Curnow said: "Documents point to a strong motive for Marsh who was entangled with Warren under contract for another year, entangled with him in terms that Warren had not paid Marsh money due, entangled with him involving a £22,000 VAT bill, entangled in this action, which if he lost would mean he faced personal humiliation. He would be exposed as a cheat and a liar, not a boxer at the top of the tree."



Marsh: accused of trying to murder his boxing manager

who had signed his contract when he knew perfectly well he had no business in the ring."

On the night of the shooting Mr Warren arrived at the Broadway Theatre in Barking with his business partner, John Botros. It was shortly after 8pm and the two men were there to see one of Mr Warren's promotions.

Earlier a man had been seen waiting across the road. He wore an anorak with a hood and a scarf covering the lower part of his face. One of a nearby group of young people asked him what he was doing there. Another, who had once watched Terry Marsh train, later said that he thought the man had the same build, height, and local accent as the boxer.

As Mr Warren got out of his car he heard a bang and straightened. That shot missed him but he was confronted by a man only six feet away who fired another bullet that entered his chest, came out through his armpit, and went through his arm. Miss Curnow said: "He was in terrible pain and he went down. Mr Botros tried to tackle the gunman but was pulled off by the person, who was athletic and who raced away across open ground." The attack was an "assassination attempt" that had failed by only a few centimetres.

Mr Marsh was arrested on January 17 this year at Gatwick Airport as he returned from the United States. He told police that he could not recall his movements on the night of the shooting, but then allegedly led them on a "wild goose chase", saying that a key he had was for a locker at King's Cross station that contained the gun used to shoot Mr Warren.

At the home of Marsh's parents, police found a jacket and gloves similar to the ones said to have been worn by the gunman. Experts discovered residue from a firearm discharge on one of the gloves.

Miss Curnow said that Mr Marsh had probably received firearms training in the Marines. In 1981 he had acquired a firearms certificate from Essex police and owned a 9mm Browning and two Smith and Wesson pistols. In 1986 he allowed the certificate to lapse, telling police that he no longer had time to shoot.

One of Mr Marsh's fellow remand prisoners at Wormwood Scrubs had said that boxer had admitted the shooting to him. Peter Harris was said to have told police that Mr Marsh made it clear that he had a consuming dislike for Mr Warren.

The trial continues today.



Tough fight ahead: Lurline Champagne believes her straightforward attitude will win votes

Set to rally the Tory vote

HEAD held high, hands clasped with determination and wearing a bright blue dress, the Conservative party's first Afro-Caribbean prospective parliamentary candidate prepared yesterday for a place in the history books (Ray Clancy writes).

Lurline Champagne, a self-employed nursing consultant, faces a tough fight in Islington North where Labour's Jeremy Corbyn has a majority of almost 10,000. She firmly believes, however, that her plain speaking and straightforward attitude to life will win over voters.

Although she is up at the crack of dawn - like the prime minister she claims to need only five hours sleep - she finds that coping with an onslaught from the press has not been easy. "I was still wearing my curlers when the first member of the press knocked on my door. I had not

thought of my selection as unique until the phone rang endlessly and the cameramen arrived on the doorstep," she said, sitting in the comfortable lounge of her semi-detached house in Hatch End, north London. She lives there with her husband, Clive, and has three grown-up sons.

Ever since she received a standing ovation as lengthy as Margaret Thatcher's at the 1986 Conservative conference she has set her sights on parliament. She told delegates she was proud to be black, British and Conservative.

When she arrived in London in 1957 aged 17 to be told that the only job open to a young, black, well-educated woman was menial factory work, she became determined to prove society wrong. She immediately secured a job as a punch operator. "I just had to break down the barrier. I was

determined and I suppose it was my personality which convinced them to give me the job," she said.

Clutching her blue toy dog, a lucky mascot named after Norman Tebbit, one of her mentors, she said that only by being a member of mainstream society could any coloured person achieve equal opportunities.

"I am British through and through and so are all the other coloured people, either born or living in this country. Black people have to come out of their ghettos and be part of society rather than hiding themselves away because they think they can only get on within their own narrow-mindedness."

"They are, after all, black English men and women and all this mumbo jumbo about ethnic minorities does not help anyone."

Holiday bookings rise for next year

By HARVEY ELLIOTT
AIR CORRESPONDENT

A BIG rise in holiday bookings over the past few days may help the travel industry. Thomson and ILG, Britain's leading tour operators, have reported increases of more than 10 per cent in deposits placed on holidays compared with the same week last year.

Thomson said last night: "Things are looking up for the summer of 1991. It seems that many of the people who did not take a holiday last summer are determined to do so next." Peter Smith, managing director of ILG, said: "Over the past five days there has been an average increase of 10.5 per cent across the board."

The two companies handle most package tours taken in Britain each year. They said that the improvement followed the decision by some smaller operators to raise their prices because of the continued high price of aviation fuel.

Mr Smith said: "People have become extremely aware and price sensitive. As soon as some tour operators increased their prices there was a rush of bookings for companies who have been able to give a guarantee of no surcharges."

The reduction in mortgage rates after Britain joined the exchange-rate mechanism is thought to have contributed to the sudden upturn in the tour operators' fortunes. Thomson said: "At least people know that mortgage rates are not on the way up."

Holiday industry fortunes fell last year in the wake of high interest rates and a widespread disenchantment with crowded airports and poor facilities in some of the most popular holiday resorts. Bookings dropped by 25 per cent compared with the previous year and most tour operators reduced the number of holidays on offer to match the new depressed market.

Then the Gulf confrontation pushed up oil prices and forced airlines to increase their charges to the tour operators. Some managed to beat the rise by buying fuel in advance. Others, however, have been forced to increase their brochure prices with warnings that further rises may come towards the end of the year.

Even Thomson and ILG said that they may have to revise their holidays after Christmas if problems in the Gulf continued. This has added to the pressure on holidaymakers to book early. The industry is, however, still struggling with a slump in bookings for winter holidays, with around 15 per cent fewer people expected to head for the ski slopes this winter than did last year.

NUM pays damages over letter

By TIM JONES

EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE National Union of Mineworkers yesterday agreed to pay libel damages in excess of £100,000 and costs after conceding that a letter aimed at undermining the creation of the breakaway Union of Democratic Mineworkers was a forgery.

The letter was allegedly written by David Prendergast, now financial secretary of the Nottingham section of the UDM. It suggested that he was prepared to bend the rules of the Nottingham area NUM and adopt and advocate underhand and undemocratic means to secure its independence from the main union.

The letter, widely circulated by the NUM in the Nottingham coalfield in August 1985 and mentioned by the media, suggested also that Mr Prendergast, at that time financial secretary of the NUM Nottingham area, was prepared to collaborate with the then Coal Board at the expense of and against the interest of the NUM membership in his area.

The action by Mr Prendergast was taken against Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, Peter Heathfield, the union's secretary, James Hood, former pit branch secretary and now Labour MP for Clydesdale, and Henry Richardson, secretary of the Nottingham area of the NUM, and the union itself.

Survey shows rise in dog cruelty

By NICHOLAS WAIT

CRUELTY to dogs has risen by 10 per cent in the first nine months of this year, according to a survey by Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The survey comes just days before MPs vote on a national dog registration scheme. Gavin Grant, the society's campaigns director, said yesterday that the registration scheme would be the most effective way to stop the cruelty and to prevent people owning dogs for "warped machismo reasons". The scheme would be operated by local authorities, and Mr Grant called for a system with 24-hour cover.

The society's claims were rejected yesterday by the *Dog World* newspaper, whose staff presented a petition opposing a registration scheme to Andrew Bowden, Conservative MP for

Brighton. Mr Bowden said that a registration scheme would not work because a DVLC for dogs would have to be created. If irresponsible people did not apply for car licenses there was little hope that they would register their dogs. He said that fines should be increased for people who maltreated dogs.

Pam Blay, a dog breeder and a senior journalist on *Dog World*, said that as a responsible person she did not like to be told she would have to take part in a registration scheme. Mr Grant told her that she represented a minority. Most of the 7½ million dogs in Britain were not pure breeds, and the £15 registration fee would not represent a great loss to people such as her. Mrs Blay said that the answer was for councils to

educate people about the treatment of dogs.

MPs will vote on dog registration when they consider the Lords' amendments to the environmental protection bill. The prime minister opposes the scheme, but Chris Patten, the environment secretary, is understood to be trying to convince her to drop her objections in order to avoid a Conservative revolt.

The environment department denied yesterday that Mr Patten was in favour of registration. Nonetheless, the government will be uneasy about the vote. In spite of a three line whip in the Commons in May, the government managed by a majority of only 12 to oppose an all-party move to include registration in the environmental protection bill.

Police code promises user-friendly bobby on the beat

By QUENTIN COWDRY
HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S police were urged yesterday to become more user-friendly and to take more account of the public's wishes to halt a decline in confidence in their work.

In a statement of police aims, officers were told to be courteous and compassionate while upholding the law fairly and firmly and with integrity, common sense and sound judgment.

The document, the first of its kind, was endorsed by the chief

constables of the 43 English and Welsh forces at a conference at the Police Training College in Bramshill, Hampshire. Although police chiefs said the national code was not meant to replace forces' own policy aims, observers see the move as further eroding the boundaries between county forces.

Michael Hirst, chief constable of Leicestershire and chairman of the group of senior officers which devised the initiative, said the statement offered a new start for the service, which had over-emphasised enforcement. In a

candid address, he said that chief constables had flunked a basic leadership test by misreading what the public wanted from the police. Nearly all paid lip-service to the concept of community policing, but few displayed any real commitment to the notion, in spite of the clear preference the public had shown for "traditional policing". More attention, for example, should be paid to crime victims.

He said: "We have been spending £5.4 billion a year... and with relatively few exceptions we have

neither identified the community's needs, measured our performance nor tested public satisfaction with the product except in the field of strict enforcement."

Claiming the police were at a crossroads as clearly signposted as the one reached in Liverpool, he predicted that forces would slide into a more confrontational style of policing if they did not change their approach.

A strategy document drawn up by the Association of Chief Police Officers says forces should seek

the views of residents and businessmen to determine local policing needs and to help measure the quality of their service. The Home Office might also conduct regular surveys to test public satisfaction.

Senior officers made it clear yesterday that such consultation could strongly influence policing decisions. If the public, for example, wanted greater priority given to litter being cleared up and drunks kept off the streets, as research suggested, resources would go to these areas.

advertisements will be allowed to "play on fear" by alluding to any alleged consequences of not being religious or not subscribing to a particular faith. Any references to the benefits of religion for personal well-being should be restrained. Testimonials and personal case-histories will not be acceptable.

The draft code also says that no advertisement may imply that religion is specifically relevant to any particular group of viewers, such as the elderly, the bereaved or divorced. Religious advertisers will also be banned from aiming commercials specifically at the young or buying advertising time immediately before or after programmes directed at audiences under 18.

Commercial exhorting viewers to change their religious behaviour, or seeking to involve viewers in an act of worship or prayer, will not be allowed.

The IBA has sent the draft code to over 300 religious organisations seeking their written comment before November 30. The draft rules were published after extensive consultation with religious bodies and market research among the public. The IBA said the public was particularly concerned that religious advertising should not be socially divisive or exploit the vulnerable.

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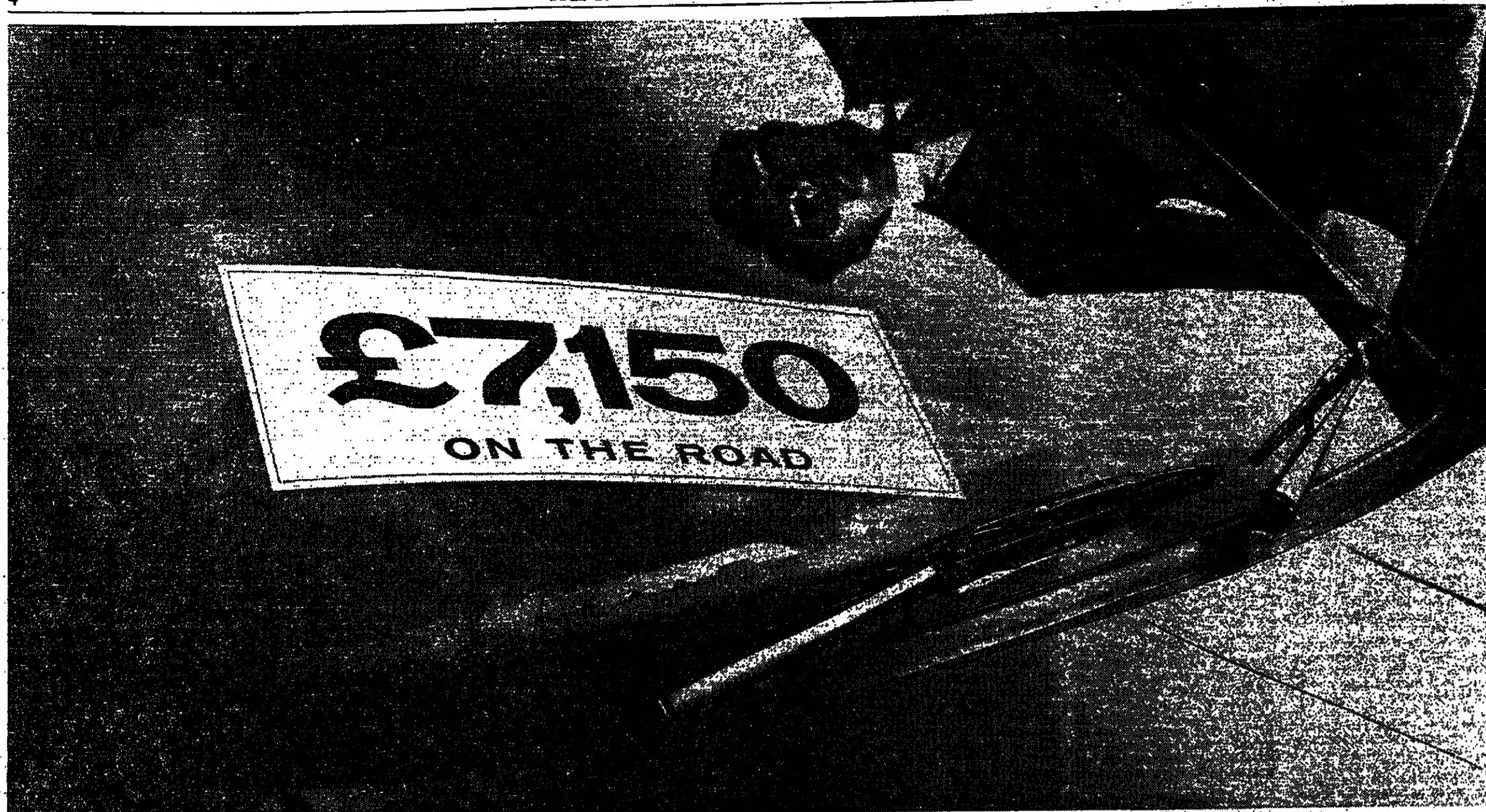
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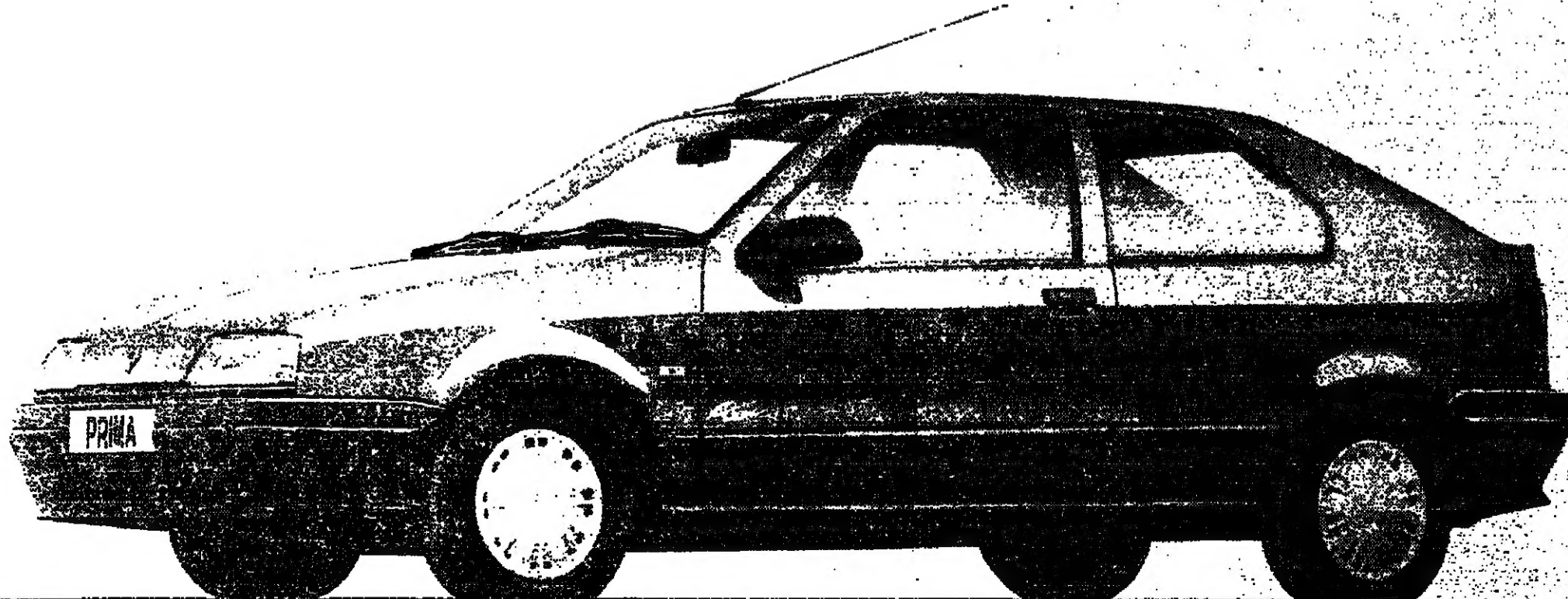
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MacGregor urges pay penalty for bad teachers

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

BAD teachers should lose their regular pay grade increases and salary rises above the basic rate should be earned under the terms of next April's pay offer, John MacGregor, the education secretary, said yesterday.

He told schools and local education authorities that they should use their new powers to set salaries not only to improve the status of good teachers but to make it clear to the bad ones that their performance would have to improve if their salaries were to be increased.

Mr MacGregor told the Interim Advisory Committee on Teachers' Pay that the

rarely used power to limit salaries should be used more frequently where a teacher's performance was unsatisfactory. In the past about 60 per cent of the 450,000 teachers in England and Wales who do not receive special allowances could expect an annual increase in their first seven years of teaching moving their salaries from £9,000 to £16,000 a year.

The written evidence to the committee, sitting for the last time before the restoration of negotiating rights to the teacher unions, said that the government hoped that local education authorities and governing bodies would use their new powers to increase the salaries of good teachers.

The sting is in the tail: "He [Mr MacGregor] attaches equal importance, however, to the use of pay flexibilities in respect of teachers whose performance is unsatisfactory... For those who have not yet reached the top of the scale there is provision for the withholding of an annual increment."

"The secretary of state believes that those provisions should be used where the performance of the individual teacher clearly warrants it."

The National Union of Teachers said: "This ought to be part of school management and a way of dealing with teachers who are judged to be ineffective. The union's role would be to ensure the proper procedures would apply to any teacher against whom there is a complaint."

Mr MacGregor also asked the pay committee, chaired by Lord Chilver, to construct a pay scheme that would ease the continuing and worsening teacher shortages in some subjects and some areas, notably in London and the South-East.

The committee was told that recruitment was still too low in several subjects, particularly physics where there had been a 17.5 per cent drop in 1989 over the previous year. "Recruitment in physics as well as in maths and craft design and technology is likely to be lower again this year... These shortfalls are of particular concern."

Lockerbie contempt is alleged

Trevor Grove, the editor of *The Sunday Telegraph*, and Toby Helm, a journalist, have been ordered to appear before Sheriff Principal John Mowat, presiding over the Lockerbie enquiry, on Friday to answer an alleged contempt of court (Kerry Gill writes).

The charge relates to an article by Mr Helm in the newspaper last Sunday headlined "Lockerbie whitewash warning". Brian Gill, QC, for the relatives of the British victims of the disaster, said the article alleged that lawyers for the bereaved were being paid by the transport department to speed up the enquiry.

The Sheriff Principal said that there appeared to be a prima facie contempt of court contained in Mr Helm's article and said he and his editor must appear before the enquiry. Colin McEachran, QC, for the transport department, said the article had implied that the department was party to a cover-up. The department had agreed to pay the fees without conditions.

Trainer bailed

The racehorse trainer Dermot Browne was granted bail on charges of obtaining by deception cash totalling £4,740 and £5,018 and of driving while banned and without insurance. Robin Arnitt, Doncaster stipendiary magistrate, agreed yesterday to bail Browne, a former jockey aged 28, on five conditions, including payment of a surety of £20,000.

Charities 'hit'

Charities which take short leases on empty shops to sell Christmas cards and goods are having difficulty finding premises this year because of the new business rate, it was claimed yesterday. The Charity Christmas Card Council, which represents 98 organisations, said: "Regulations brought in with the new business rate penalise a landlord who wishes to assist a charity in this way."

Award appeal

Three Scottish judges yesterday permitted News Scotland, publisher of *The Sun*, to appeal against a jury's award of £50,000 damages to Lilian Winter, aged 41, a prison officer, for defamation in a *Sun* story alleging misconduct at Glenochil prison. Lord Hope, the Lord President, and Lord Allanbridge and Lord Mayfield, sitting in the Court of Session, signed legal papers for the appeal, due next year.

Soviet flag intrigue overshadows chess

By RAYMOND KEBNE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

GAME five in the New York World Chess Championship will be remembered as a protest against the slow pace of change in the Soviet Union towards democracy and a market economy.

Kasparov had chosen to play under the flag of the Russian Republic rather than the hammer and sickle. Karpov, as perhaps befits a player twice decorated by Brezhnev, continued to play under the Soviet flag.

However, after a protest by Nikolai Krogius, the head of Karpov's delegation in New York, and former general secretary of the Soviet Chess

Federation, the match appeals committee decided to abolish flags on stage in an apparent attempt to placate both parties. In future, only the players' names, larger than before, will appear on the stage.

Compared with this off-board intrigue, game five was an anti-climax. Karpov might have wished to press fiercely for an advantage with the white pieces. Instead, he cleared the pieces from the board by repeated exchanges in the d file he had opened on move nine until, by move 36, there was nothing left for which to play.

Karpov (white) Kasparov (black)

White	Black	19 B71	19 B74
1. d4	Nf6	20 g3	19 B75
2. c4	g6	21 Kg2	19 B76
3. Nc3	Bg7	22 Rd1	19 B77
4. e4	0-0	23 Rf2	19 B78
5. Nf3	0-0	24 Rf1	19 B79
6. Rb2	0-0	25 Rf1	19 B80
7. Bc2	Nb8	26 Rf4	19 B81
8. 0-0	0-0	27 Rf5	19 B82
9. dxc5	Qxc5	28 Rf6	19 B83
10. Qxc5	Rxc5	29 Rf6	19 B84
11. Rd1	0-0	30 Nc3	19 B85
12. f3	Rf8	31 Kf3	19 B86
13. Nd2	0-0	32 Bc3	19 B87
14. e3	Nc5	33 N4	19 B88
15. d4	Nc6	34 Bc2	19 B89
16. Nc3	Rf6	35 Rf4	19 B90
17. f3	N4	36 Rf5	19 B91
18. Bc2	Rf8	Draw agreed	

King's Indian defence, which ended in an agreed draw



Virginia Bottomley, the health minister, viewing an exhibition of AIDS posters from around the world with James Miller, its curator. She says that new advertisements leave no doubt about the risks of heterosexual infection

New campaign as female Aids figure soars

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE number of women sexually infected with the Aids virus has almost quadrupled in Britain in the past three years, prompting a new government campaign aimed at heterosexuals this winter.

Some of the HIV-positive women have agreed to take part in television commercials in the campaign. Virginia Bottomley, the health minister, yesterday described their personal testimonies as "shattering".

The number of women known to be infected, 1,182, has overtaken the 1987 total of 1,166 full-blown Aids cases among homosexual men, haemophiliacs, drug abusers and all other categories.

At the end of 1987, 147 women were known to have contracted HIV sexually, compared with 567 at the end of last month. The figure for women infected by injecting illicit drugs has risen from 168 to 615 in the same time. About 100 women in Britain have died from Aids since 1983.

personal testimonies of some of the women who caught HIV through sexual intercourse and they are shattering," she said. "They leave no doubt about the real hazards of heterosexual infection."

Britain's first custom-built hospice for Aids sufferers will begin taking admissions from the end of January, with all of its 20 beds expected to be occupied by the middle of next year (Kerry Gill writes). The hospice, in Edinburgh, where HIV infection is at epidemic levels, will deal with up to 400 patients a year.

Yesterday, as an appeal was launched to help to meet the £900,000-a-year running costs of the charity-run hospice, Milestone House, it emerged that the hospice could justify 50 beds within four years. Kenneth Clarke, the health secretary, sought yesterday to damp down speculation that an out-of-court settlement is imminent to compensate 1,200 haemophiliacs infected with the Aids virus from contaminated blood products. Speaking in Birmingham, he dismissed reports that the government was prepared to make up to £90 million more available to victims and their families.



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Cost of the nation's children haunts the parties and politicians

Child benefit has a long history, with disagreements dogging much of it. Jill Sherman considers how politicians have grappled with the issues behind a system costing the nation £4.5 billion a year

THE first incentives for women to bear children were introduced in Europe in the first century before Christ by the Emperor Augustus to ensure a good supply of young men to fight his battles and run his empire. William Pitt the Younger followed suit in Britain during the Napoleonic Wars when child allowances were incorporated into the income tax system.

Since then, the question of whether to opt for a universal benefit, which goes to many who do not need it, tax allowances, which favour the rich, or means-tested benefits, which compound the poverty trap, has dogged successive governments. The decision has become even more tortuous in the past decade since it became embroiled with the argument over whether mothers should be encouraged to stay at home or go out to work.

Eleanor Rathbone, a child allowance campaigner in the 1940s, was one of the first to argue that children were not a private luxury but an asset to the community. Because parents incurred greater costs than childless couples, they should be subsidised, she argued. In 1945, the wartime coalition government agreed to supplement child tax allowances with a family allowance paid through the social security system. It went to every second child and subsequent siblings.

The burden of this family allowance system grew heavy by the late Sixties and early Seventies. Conservatives first attempted to reform the child allowance system in the early Seventies, but a green paper on amalgamating tax allowances and benefits ran into the sands. Eventually, the 1974 Labour government phased in child benefit between 1977 and 1979. The idea behind the universal benefit was to take the money out of the breadwinner's wallet and hand it directly to the mother. The proposal caused an uproar as workers realised they would lose income, and the Child Poverty Action Group denounced it as "robbery". However, anti-poverty groups soon saw it as a corner-

stone that protected lone parents and poor families.

Tax allowances of £300 a year for each child under the age of 11, which went to the father, were converted in the first stage to a £1-a-week cash benefit paid to mothers. Child tax allowances were reduced at the same time by the equivalent of 70p a week.

It was Barbara Castle, the then Labour social services secretary, who insisted, against the lobbying of young Tories such as Kenneth Clarke, that child benefit should not be automatically uprated with inflation. This has resulted in child benefit being caught in a political row in the public expenditure round each autumn.

Child benefit, an increasingly expensive millstone, was looked at once more by the Conservatives in the 1986 social security reforms. Norman Fowler, then social services secretary, concluded that it should remain untouched. He argued that if it were replaced by means testing, the poverty trap would be exacerbated, creating a disincentive for the breadwinner. However, he did introduce two benefits to help poorer families. Family Income Supplement was replaced by the more generous Family Credit for working families and Income Support with Family Premiums for the jobless.

His successor, John Major, froze child benefit in 1987, arguing that money saved could be concentrated on poorer families through Family Credit. The poverty lobby retorted that many poor do not take up means-tested benefits. In any case, extra money to the poor should not be given from money taken from children in other families, the Save Child Benefit group said.

Child benefit was frozen at £7.25 for three successive years, while the Tory party argued about whether it should be raised, restructured or abolished. John Major's argument that families on his income should not be entitled to benefit did not go down well among Tory women who argued that for many the purse would now be empty. This year,

there has been pressure from Tory MPs to woo voters by raising child benefit. Yet the radical right still claims that children should be seen as an optional consumer good.

Child benefit has a 98 per cent take-up, but a quarter of the £4.5 billion earmarked for it goes to families with yearly incomes over £20,000. To uprate it in line with inflation this year would cost £400 million, taking it to just over £8.

David Willetts, of the Centre for Policy Studies, proposes the compromise of uprating benefit for under-fives but freezing it for older children. He argues that the benefit should remain universal because means tests increase the poverty trap. Child benefit favours neither the rich, nor the poor, and is neutral on whether mothers go to work, he says.

At the heart of the debate is the fear of welfare dependency on the one hand and under-provision for the most needy children on the other. A few million more from the Treasury will not end that.

Leading article, page 13
New deal for first child, page 1

Mothers cling to a financial lifeline

By JANE BIDDER

PAT Spencer from Brentford, a mother of three under-fours, is urgently waiting her next child benefit allowance, due in a week. Two years ago, she would have used the money to buy treats, Christmas presents and birthday gifts. Now it is being used for basic necessities: two pairs of woolly tights for two-year-old Chloe and a dressing gown for Thomas, nearly four.

The £87 paid into a separate bank account each month is even more necessary because Mrs Spencer's husband has recently been made redundant from his computer sales job. Mrs Spencer, a former beauty therapist aged 33, admits that she and her family do

not seem like an obvious poverty case, but she sees the allowance as a lifeline at a time of high mortgage rates and rising living costs. She is appalled by the suggestion that it might be frozen again and does not care much for the idea that benefit should be given only for children under five. "Children over five get more expensive than little ones: apart from shoes, clothes for toddlers cost less whereas the over-fives need winter coats and school uniforms."

Determining whether families like the Spencers need the allowance is difficult. Save Child Benefit, a campaigning organisation, argues that it should be seen as a recognition that families need extra help because children cost

money. Sally Hawkins, co-ordinator of the campaign, argues: "Since 1979, child benefit has been cut in real terms by 18 per cent while tax allowances to married couples have increased by 23 per cent. No one argues that a married couple's tax allowance should be based on whether someone needs it: it goes to the Duke of Westminster just as it does to his milkman."

Mary Talbot, a farmer's wife and mother of three from Buckinghamshire, puts her child benefit towards the family's supermarket bill of about £50 or £60 a week. "We need it for basics like food," she said. "In the past, I might have spent it on toys and luxury items for the children, but now it's a vital part of the

household budget. In a sense, I can see why there's an argument for the money to go to under-fives: their mothers are less likely to be working so might need it more. Then again, older children need more clothes and should be able to enjoy activities outside school, which cost money."

Christine Gowdridge, a charity co-ordinator, gives her child benefit to her daughter Anna, aged 15, as a clothes allowance. "It saves a lot of fights over money and she's learned how to manage her finances better as well as dressing reasonably well. In the past, my child benefit was a cushion against disaster. It's also of symbolic value in that the payment shows children are welcome in society."

How other nations provide for families

THE system of child benefits in the United States, known as Aid to Families with Dependent Children, was established in the Great Depression to provide temporary relief for indigent widows (James Bone writes). The main beneficiaries are single mothers, many in their teens, who can earn more from benefits than by working. There are four million welfare parents, 90 per cent of whom are mothers without a husband in the home.

The 1988 family support act required states to establish "work-readiness" programmes and allowed them to demand that welfare mothers with children over three (or, in some cases, just one) participate as long as the state provided day care.

Child benefit is comparatively generous in France. Every family with two or more children may receive the payments (properly resident foreigners included) without a means test (Philip Jacobson writes).

Monthly benefits are: two children, 599F (about £60); three children £130; four children £217; and five or more £296. There are also special allowances of 169F (about £17) a month for children over 10 and £30 a month for those over 15.

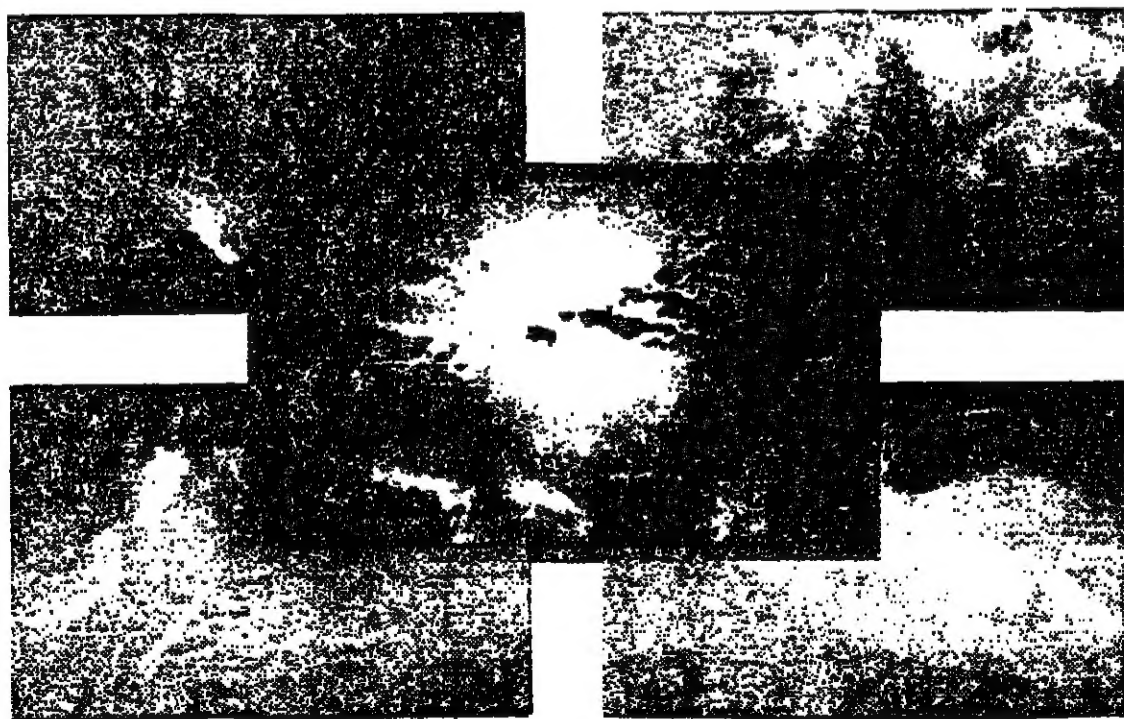
Allowances are generally payable to any family for the entire period of their child's education. Seventeen-year-olds not earning a wage still qualify, while those in recognised apprenticeships, full-time educational studies, and the disabled, are eligible up to the age of 20.

A streamlined cradle-to-grave welfare system in Denmark, in spite of public sector cuts at a time of economic austerity, provides well for the many unmarried mothers with children (Christopher Follett writes). In a country of five million people with only 26,000 births a year, 45 per cent of children are born outside wedlock.

There is an annual allowance of around 6,000 kroner (£330) for every child irrespective of the parents' marital status. In addition, about £700 in benefits each year is available to each illegitimate child or off-spring of broken marriages. There is also a compulsory means-tested, state-guaranteed private contribution to the mother from the biological father of at least another £700 a year.



Months to feed: Pat Spencer, with son Joseph and daughter Chloe, uses her benefit for necessities



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Pay rise sacrifices needed 'if jobs are not to be lost'

By OUR PARLIAMENTARY STAFF

INFLATION will fall sharply next year, John Major told the Commons yesterday when he opened the debate on Britain's entry into the exchange-rate mechanism of the European Monetary System.

The chancellor gave a warning that sacrifices would have to be made on wage increases if companies were to remain competitive.

Mr Major said that the headline inflation figure might be pushed higher by the rise in oil prices during the past few months.

"But," he added, "I now have no doubt that we shall see inflation falling substantially throughout next year. It will do so particularly quickly from next April for two reasons."

"The underlying rate will improve and some of the unusual adverse factors which have artificially boosted the headline rate will drop out next year."

"Our inflation performance will improve therefore both in

absolute terms and, just as important for entry into the mechanism, relative to that of our European competitors."

He would make a detailed prediction in the autumn statement.

He described the euphoria with which some people had greeted the news as mistaken. The argument that entry had short-term advantages and long-term cost was wholly misleading and a complete misunderstanding of the ERM.

"In the short term, membership will require tough action to ensure we achieve low inflation thereafter. The rewards are long term with that very low rate of inflation. That does mean making no further reductions in interest rates until it is prudent to do so."

For business, staying competitive meant relating wage rises to the realistic and justifiable, and leadership needed to come from the top.

He said: "I share the view that sacrifices which may need to be made on wages must apply to those at the top of the industry as well as those elsewhere. The consequences of people not obeying that necessary discipline will be lost jobs."

There could be no more negotiating around the benchmark of the retail price index as though that represented the minimum increase it was reasonable to expect.

He said he believed that the DM2.95 exchange rate was sustainable. There was no reason why British companies should not compete successfully at present exchange rates. In the medium term they would compete more successfully with lower inflation.

Entry, he said, was part of Britain's commitment to stage one of economic and monetary union and the single market, but "it is no sense committing us to the Delors approach to stage two and stage three."

"I can assure the House that there has been no shift, no weakening in our opposition to the imposition of a single currency and a single monetary authority. We remain opposed to this and I believe our opposition has the overwhelming support of the House."

Neil Kinnock concentrated his early attack on Margaret Thatcher for not speaking in the debate.

"The prime minister has chosen this occasion of all

occasions to become untypically reticent, to embrace a previously undisclosed shyness, to become a sort of crypto-Trappist."

Hardly anyone had believed Mr Major's smooth and soothing explanation of the timing of the decision. Entry had been nothing more nor less than the price paid for the one percentage point cut in interest rates that Mrs Thatcher needed to take to her party conference.

Labour had been making the case for entry because of the basic attractiveness of the ERM, that it gave a necessary stability to the British economy in which they could secure the advance of productivity and competitiveness. That was why they had welcomed entry.

The problem was that that stability was in jeopardy if the government's commitment and the prime minister's sincerity were not even evidenced by her willingness to speak.

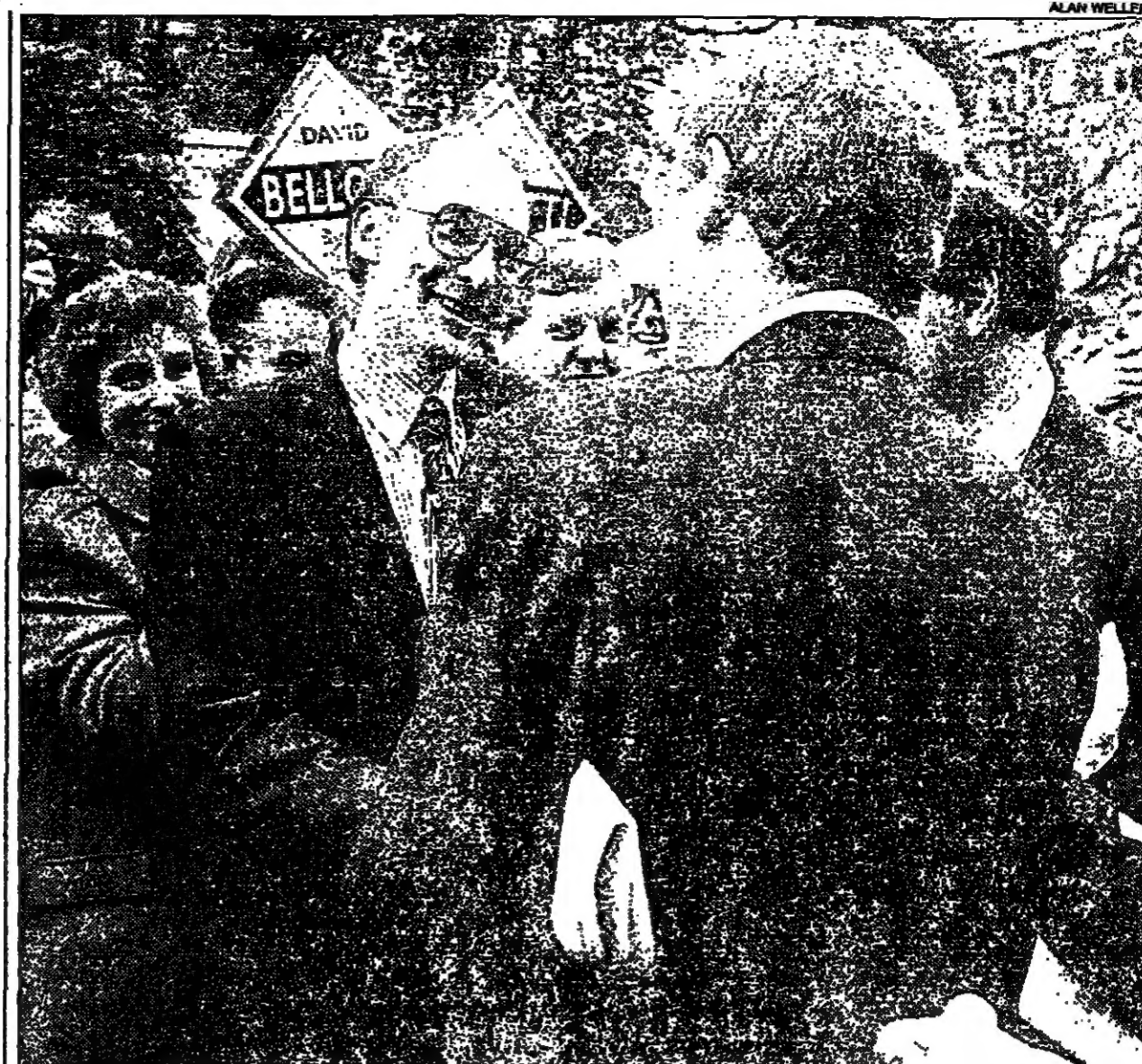
The government had not learnt from the mistakes of the past 11 years and the only response it ever made to a mistake was to repeat it and call it being resolute.

Nigel Lawson, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, said that it was with great pleasure that he was able to endorse wholeheartedly the fact that the government had now entered the ERM.

"As for the reasons for doing so and the advantages of doing so, I agree entirely with what the chancellor said today," he added. "I have to say, however, that these reasons, that these advantages, have been valid for years. They are not reasons and advantages which have only suddenly appeared relatively recently."

Entering the ERM meant that we were now, as some might put it, committed to shadowing the mark at a rate not far from DM3 to the pound.

In response to laughter and shouts from Opposition MPs, he said when we were, as it were, living in sin with the ERM — the period from March 1987 to March 1988 — inflation fell from 4.5 per cent to 3.5 per cent. To maintain that that was a cause of inflation was difficult to sustain. Were it so, it would be difficult to say why they were accepting the arrangement now.



Safe arrival: David Bellotti, victor of Eastbourne, being greeted at the Commons yesterday by Paddy Ashdown

Teachers need big pay increase, MPs say

JOHN MacGregor, the education secretary, came under pressure at question time from MPs who urged a big pay increase for teachers next year. He said that the interim advisory committee, which makes pay and conditions recommendations, had begun its work; he would respond at the appropriate time.

Cyril Townsend, Tory MP for Bexleyheath, said that it was shameful that local education authorities had to recruit teachers from abroad. He said

that teachers must have a big pay increase if their recruitment and community standing was to be looked after.

Mr MacGregor replied that only a handful of schools had teacher vacancies this year and the number recruited from overseas was small.

Teachers, he said, had seen an average pay increase of 50 per cent since 1986 and it was well up in real terms over the past 10 years.

Jack Suraw, shadow education spokes-

man, accused the government of making untrue claims about rises for teachers over the past four years. He said that teachers' pay had been cut in real terms in each of the past three years and called for an assurance that the government would fund any increase recommended by the committee.

Mr MacGregor said that there was a much greater flexibility in the salary structure now and many teachers had had big rises in the past few years.

Thatcher rules out A-level reforms

By NICHOLAS WOOD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MARGARET Thatcher yesterday scuppered hopes of reform of the A-level examination.

She poured cold water on plans from the Schools Examination and Assessment Council for the university entrance hurdle to be changed to include much greater room for course work and tests of "core skills" such as communication and personal development. The plans have been criticised by public school headmasters.

Mrs Thatcher told Michael Lord, Tory MP for Suffolk Central, that she knew of no plans to "undermine the most excellent A-level examination". She said that it ensured at degree level one of the highest rates of achievement anywhere.

Mr Lord said that many people believed that A-levels were the only true benchmark of academic achievement. He asked the prime minister to assure the Commons that there were no plans to alter or undermine the examination.

John MacGregor, the education secretary, is expected to announce the government's response to examination council's proposals early next year. They are intended to improve the sixth-form staying-on rate of a quarter by bringing A-levels more into line with the GCSE, allowing course work to make up a fifth of the final marks, possibly rising to four-fifths.

Vivian Anthony, secretary of the Headmasters' Conference, said this week: "The proposals will reduce the objectivity and integrity of the assessment."

More stay on at school

More children are staying on at school or going in to further education.

Tim Eggar, an education minister, said in a Commons written reply.

He said that the government had achieved a big increase in the numbers. In 1989-90, about 35 per cent of 16-year-olds were attending school compared with 28 per cent in 1979-80. In addition, 20 per cent were in full-time education in further education colleges compared with 14 per cent in 1979-80.

He added: "Our examination reforms and the Education Reform Act will raise standards."

Discounts for houses

Tenants buying their houses at Basildon in the first English experimental rent-to-mortgage scheme will buy for an initial payment of at least the amount they could borrow on a mortgage where repayments were equal to their rent.

That initial payment will attract discount in accordance with present right-to-buy rules and tenants paying half the right-to-buy price will get half discount, Michael Spicer, housing minister, said in a written reply.

14,500 apply for loans

About 14,500 students have applied so far for loans under the new student loans scheme, Alan Howarth, a junior education minister, said during Commons questions.

He brushed aside claims from Opposition MPs that the scheme was a failure because so few people had applied, saying that the academic year was only two weeks old.

Appeals on poll tax

About 4,230 community charge appeals have been lodged so far this year with valuation and community charge tribunals, compared with 178,078 appeals against all types of rating proposals in 1989. The number of rating appeals in each of the previous four years varied between 150,000 and 182,332.

Parliament today
Commons (2.30): Questions: Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Debate on EC aid to Eastern Europe. Lords (2.30): Courts and Legal Services bill. Commons amendments.

Bradford North Minute's silence opens campaign

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Islamic Party of Britain opened its campaign in the Bradford North by-election yesterday with a minute's silence and a promise to offer commonsense solutions for the country's problems.

The silence was for all the casualties of American and British power politics and others suffering in the Middle East while defending Islam's holiest shrine.

Commonsense solutions included the ending of interest charges for borrowing and the introduction of three currencies issued by town halls, national government and international organisations.

"I always believe in common sense as a principle", David Musa Fidcock, the party's leader and candidate in the forthcoming by-election, said.

Mr Fidcock's party, which was founded a year ago, hopes to attract votes from among the constituency's 7,500 Muslim voters as part of a longer-term attempt to improve what it sees as Islam's negative image in the United Kingdom.

If successful, the party could rob Labour of some of its traditional support in the constituency where it had a majority of only 1,633 majority at the last general election. Mr Fidcock, born in Shef-

field and a Roman Catholic until he converted to Islam 15 years ago, denounced the banking system as a fraud and is to base his campaign for the poll on a plan to replace government borrowing by the issuing of interest-free government bonds.

Labour, although it is confident that there will be no serious haemorrhage of its support among the Muslim community, is offering reassurance on several topics causing concern among the wider Asian communities.

The party's candidate, Terry Rooney, made sympathetic noises yesterday on the Salman Rushdie affair. Mr Rooney said that he would regret it if *The Satanic Verses* were published as a paperback. He said that he thought the blasphemy laws were out of date and that it would be difficult to draft substitute legislation.

Later, at a meeting in the local council offices, the party's deputy leader, Roy Hattersley, held talks with leading figures from the Asian community, reassuring them that the party was listening and aware of their concerns. General election: P. Wall (Lab), 21,009; G. Lawler (C), 19,376; A. Berkeley (SDP/AI), 8,656. Lab maj: 1,633.

APPRECIATION

Buchan, folk-singing socialist

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE death at 67 of Norman Buchan removes from the Commons an uncompromising Scots left-winger. It removes too one of the House's genuine characters.

Diminutive and intense, he had been a front bench spokesman on Scottish affairs before resigning as Harold Wilson's minister of state for agriculture in 1974 over Labour's softening policy on the common market.

Later, he provoked Neil Kinnock into dismissing him as an spokesman in 1985 because he would not accept the leadership line that broadcasting should remain a Home Office responsibility

rather than pass to a broader arts ministry as the Labour conference had voted consistently that it should.

Never one to mince words, Mr Buchan explained his abstention in the deputy leadership contest between Tony Benn and Denis Healey by saying "my brain turned against Benn, but my stomach turned against Healey" and he continued to chide and chivy the Labour party against abandoning socialism from a series of fringe meeting platforms at party conferences.

A former Communist who left the party over Hungary in 1956, a convinced nuclear unilateralist and a supporter

of Scottish devolution, Mr Buchan was a combative party warrior. But he could also be one of the most entertaining speakers in the Commons as when, in 1988, he revealed his knowledge of folk songs, on which he was an expert, during the Commons proceedings on the Copyright bill.

His contribution on that occasion involved a long anecdote about the Soviet secret police and a spirited rendition of items from various songs, including the wartime favourite about a latrine attendant: "I'm the man with the plan for the pan which everyone uses".

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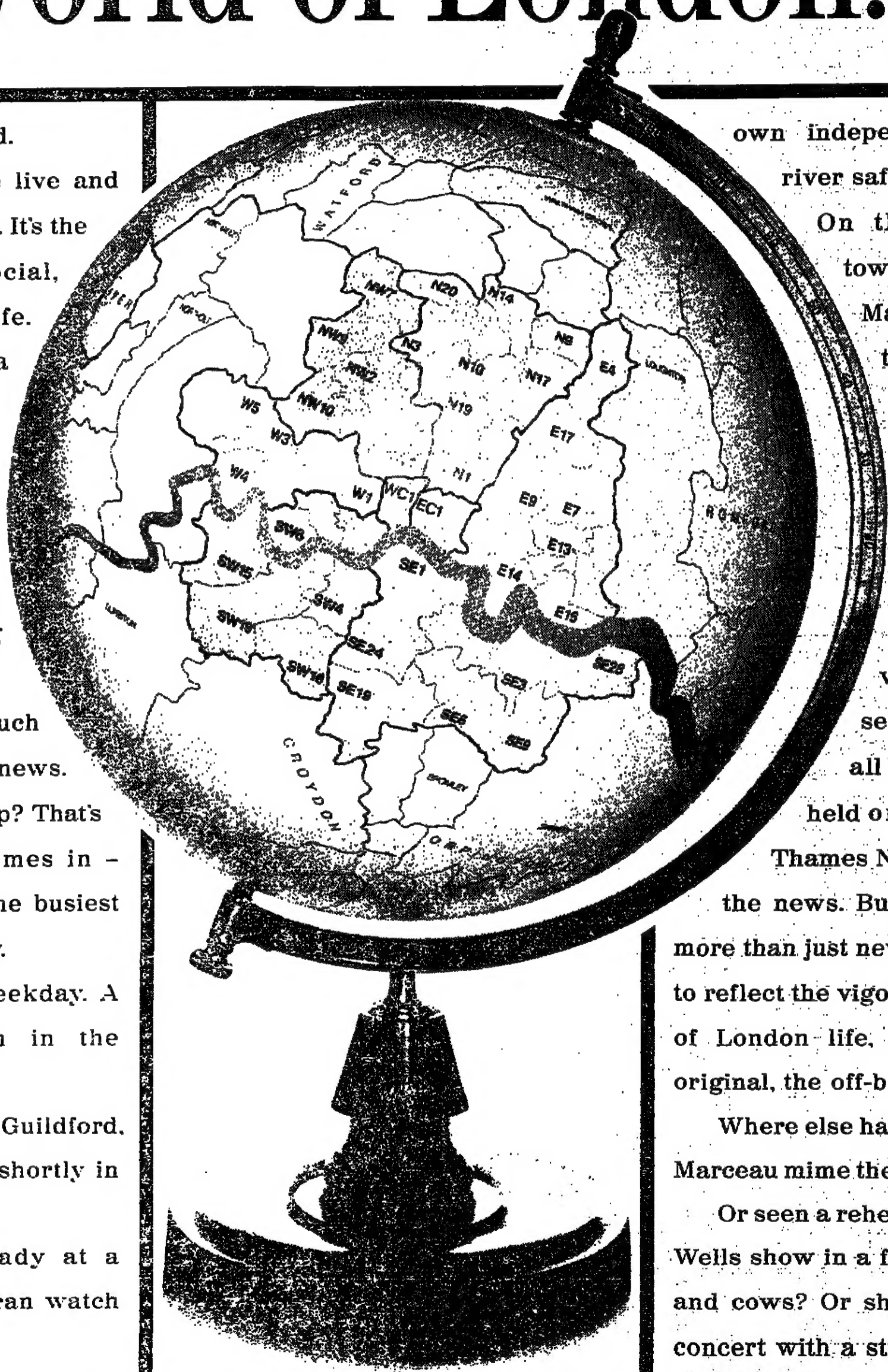
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Iraqi families suffer growing hardship from UN sanctions

FROM NICHOLAS BRESTON IN BAGHDAD

SAMI Mehdi gave an exasperated shrug as he filled up his dilapidated taxi yesterday on the first day of fuel rationing in Iraq. "We have a new saying in Baghdad," he said. "Yesterday was better than today, but today will be better than tomorrow."

The simple proverb underlines the growing hardship among Iraqis who, after nearly two months of the UN economic boycott, are beginning for the first time to endure the hardship of international isolation. Like most taxi drivers in Baghdad, Mr Mehdi said he would normally get through his allowance of 13 gallons of petrol for the week in one day's work.

He predicted that the rationing would hit his family hard at a time when the prices of consumer goods are soaring, but wages are remaining

static. Although there are still abundant supplies of food in the Baghdad markets, mostly looted goods from Kuwait and locally supplied fresh produce, the prices are becoming increasingly beyond the reach of the average Iraqi on a salary of 120 dinars a month (£220 at the official exchange rate, but worth only about £20 on the black market).

Since the invasion the price of locally produced cigarettes has risen by 1,000 per cent, potatoes by 800 per cent and rationing has been introduced for basic items like bread, rice, sugar and cooking oil.

For the first time senior Iraqi officials are admitting that the sanctions are beginning to take their toll on the economy, but insist that the hardships imposed on the Iraqi people from outside will only serve to strengthen their

loyalty to President Saddam Hussein, much as it did during the eight-year war with Iran.

"Yes, sanctions are biting here, but it does not mean that we will kneel down and beg for mercy," said one Iraqi official this week.

Privately, however, several Iraqis insisted that there is growing public resentment that once again the Iraqi people are having to suffer the consequences of President Saddam's regional ambitions.

"If this is what happens to us when we invade Kuwait, I hate to think what will happen when he (President Saddam) decides to attack Israel," said one indignant motorist queuing up on Monday night at a petrol station in a country with the second largest oil reserves in the world.

Although the consumer problems are the most visible, the petrol rationing is symptomatic of the far more serious damage that the embargo is doing to the industrial sector.

The shortage of petrol is due largely to the limited supplies of additives needed for refining crude oil and the lack of spare parts essential for keeping the country's refineries going.

Western diplomats monitoring the effects of the embargo believe that the industrial sector has been the hardest hit because of the shortage of manpower and the lack of spare parts for routine maintenance work.

"Iraq relied heavily on foreign skilled and semi-skilled labour to keep the country running," said one diplomat.

"Now most western workers are either being held hostage or have left. The semi-skilled Asian and Arab guest workers have also left by the thousand, or are planning to leave soon and many of the trained Iraqis have been drafted into the military."

Observers predict that whole sectors could start closing down by January if the sanctions remain in effect and that serious food shortages could appear in about eight months time.

It is predicted that if the current stalemate in the Gulf continues Iraq will rapidly be reduced to a basic subsistence economy. Although there is clear evidence of some goods being smuggled into the country from Jordan, Iran and Turkey, sanctions are still on a relatively small scale and falls far short of the needs of the entire population.

The country will also at some point run out of the cash needed to pay for imports because its assets abroad are frozen and it is no longer earning foreign currency from its oil exports. Unfortunately for the western forces now assembled in Saudi Arabia, the only sector which has proved resilient to sanctions is the military which has enough spare parts to keep its aircraft and vehicles running for at least a year and sufficient stocks of ammunition to fight a prolonged war over several months.

Leading article, page 13



United stand: Sheikh Jaber Ahmed al-Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait, with Margaret Thatcher in Downing Street after agreeing that Iraq must leave his country

Palestinians seek revenge for Jerusalem killings

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

ARAB knife attacks on Israelis in revenge for the shootings on Temple Mount just over two weeks ago continued yesterday for the third day, despite strict security, as two women soldiers were attacked on the road between Haifa and Nazareth and two Israeli men were assaulted by Arabs from Gaza in Ashkelon, south of Tel Aviv.

Moshe Arens, the defence minister, said the security forces were doing all within their power to protect Israeli citizens, but predicted that the attacks would continue and might increase. Recent leaflets issued by the underground leadership of the *Intifada*, or Palestinian uprising, have urged Arabs to attack Israelis with knives or other weapons to avenge the Temple Mount deaths.

On Sunday, three Israelis were stabbed to death in a Jewish district of Jerusalem. One of them was a policeman who fired at his attacker's legs rather than "shoot to kill" even though bystanders had urged him to kill the assailant. Witnesses quoted the policeman as saying: "I do not want to harm him." The policeman was then stabbed to death

when he closed with the Arab. The incident has given rise to calls for a review of the circumstances under which the security forces can "shoot to kill". But Mr Arens said standing orders on opening fire were already clear.

He added: "We are prepared for further attacks. We know Saddam Hussein's supporters and terrorist organisations want to prove that the *Intifada* is alive and well and making progress. They fear the *Intifada* might be waning." He told Israeli radio that the security forces would raise their level of alertness.

In yesterday's incident, two women soldiers were wounded — one seriously — while standing by the roadside waiting for lifts. Witnesses said several Arab men jumped from a car registered in the occupied territories and assaulted the women. One of the Arabs was caught and beaten by passers-by.

In the second incident yesterday two Israeli factory owners in the industrial zone of Ashkelon were struck on the head with heavy hammers by Arab workers from Gaza. The Arabs were arrested and were said by police to have admitted carrying out the assaults "for Palestinian nationalist motives".

One hundred and twenty thousand Palestinians normally commute to work in Israeli shops and factories every day but many have been kept out this week by roadblocks set up to screen out "troublemakers".

In Jerusalem, the mayor, Teddy Kolek, said the Arab assaults on Israelis were the result of frustration over the lack of progress in the Middle East peace process.

Ronnie Milo, the Israeli minister of police, was among those who said the policeman who died on Sunday should have shot to kill. He quoted the Talmud, the Jewish book of laws, as saying: "He who rises up to kill you, rise up earlier and kill him first."

The Islamic fundamentalist group Hamas said Sunday's killings were "only the beginning". Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, retorted: "It is for them (Arab attackers) to know that he who commits terrorist acts against us will be punished immediately."

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Amos Oz, page 18

Arab leaders pave way for peace moves

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

AMID a welter of confusing signals, there were further indications yesterday of an all-Arab initiative beginning to take shape in renewed efforts to bring a peaceful end to the Gulf confrontation.

Senior Arab officials said that various moves, some linked and others unconnected, appeared designed to pave the way for an eventual scenario in which fundamental differences about the timing of any fresh negotiations over disputed areas of Kuwait, and other Middle East issues, could be overcome.

Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, the Saudi defence minister, claimed that conciliatory remarks made by him at the weekend had been misinterpreted. However, statements by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia 24 hours later continued the newly softened tone from Riyadh, while not altering the basic Saudi position that Iraq must withdraw fully and unconditionally from Kuwait.

The king was quoted by the official Saudi Press Agency as urging President Saddam Hussein to withdraw from Kuwait and assuring him that he would not lose face if he did. "I do not see that if a blunder were committed, that we correct the mistake with another mistake," the king said on Monday. "The correct reply is to remedy the mistake."

Western observers were quick to note the difference in tone from the hawkish Saudi remarks in the early days of the confrontation. They said there was a growing distinction between Arab public statements from all except members of the deposed Kuwaiti government and those from certain Western leaders such as President Bush and Mrs Thatcher about ways of resolving the conflict.

The Iraqis were quick to overlook any "misinterpretation" and praised the Saudi defence minister's remarks as originally reported, claiming they were "a hopeful sign". Mohamed al-Mashat, Iraq's ambassador to the United States, said in a television interview that "this bespeaks of readiness to negotiate which was always the case with us", but appeared once again to rule out any unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait as a prelude to negotiations.

In what was seen in diplomatic circles as a related development, Cairo's leading state-owned newspaper, *Al-Ahram*, yesterday highlighted a report that a special envoy of President Chadli of Algeria would arrive in Cairo "within the next 48 hours" for talks with President Mubarak. The envoy was named as Sayed Ahmed Ghazali, the Algerian foreign minister, who has played an important role in drawing up a new Gulf peace plan put together by the members of the Arab Maghreb Union, Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia.

In a recent interview Mr Ghazali said that the plan

could be used as the basis for a settlement of the confrontation, but denied that any mediation had yet taken place.

"Arab governments are not split about the Gulf crisis," Mr Ghazali told the Saudi daily *Ashraq al-Aswat*. They differed only on how to bring about any solution. A resort to force would result in "a catastrophe for the Arab world".

A diplomat recently in Saudi Arabia said that the change of tone from the Saudi leadership could be partly explained by fears that its own oil production facilities could suffer severely in any shooting war with Iraq, which is increasingly being seen as unlikely to result in a quick victory.

The *New York Times* reported from Riyadh on Monday: "In interviews over the last three weeks, American, Saudi and European military and political officials have pointed to the growing realisation that, if war comes, it's human, economic and political costs are likely to be high."

One Iranian analyst said yesterday: "Saddam needs some type of face-saving mission and he will pull out. He wants a guarantee that, if he pulls his troops back, Kuwait will remain a no-man's land and not be immediately filled up with hostile troops."

Some diplomats believe that Riyadh might give this guarantee even if Iraq withdrew only to a new border it has drawn, including two islands at the head of the Gulf, parts of Kuwait's Rumaila oil field, and a ridge commanding the northern frontier.

Japanese troops bill boycotted

FROM JOE JOSEPH IN TOKYO

BAHRAIN apparently would be Japan's front line if Japanese troops were sent to the Middle East to help US-led forces in the Gulf.

But their dispatch to the Gulf became less likely yesterday after opposition parties boycotted debate in parliament on the bill to send troops abroad again after 45 years. The chances of the law being passed this year, or in its present form, now seem slim.

A newspaper poll yesterday confirmed that the majority of Japanese are against sending troops abroad, while reports in Japanese newspapers said that Michael Armacost, the American ambassador to Tokyo, had told a senior Japanese official that he hoped the bill would be passed.

The *Asahi* newspaper yesterday quoted a government source as saying if troops were sent to help in the Middle East they would "evade danger zones by not going beyond Bahrain."

Hostages' release highlights plight of trapped Britons

BY NICHOLAS BRESTON

IT SHOULD have been a day of celebration on the tenth floor of the Mansour Meila, the five-star hotel that has served as a makeshift prison for the British hostages held in Baghdad for nearly two months.

But there was little jubilation as Edward Heath concluded his four-day mission, taking with him some of the 1,350 Britons trapped in Iraq. "They are simply giving up one hand and taking away with the other," said one disgusted diplomat after visiting 26 Britons recently caught in Kuwait and destined to replace those who left yesterday as the latest detainees in President Saddam Hussein's human detentions. "They are letting out a few dozen from one end, but pumping in the same number from the other. It has become almost industrial," he said.

The trauma of being left behind was particularly acute for one British mother who was brought into Baghdad with her 19-year-old son on Monday night. They were told that he had been selected to go home because he was a student and only visiting his parents in Kuwait at the time of the Iraqi invasion.

"The Iraqis then said they had made a mistake and took them both back to the installation," said Mrs Gilly Battersby, aged 43, of Lincoln, the wife of a British hostage whose relative youth and fitness make it unlikely that he will be looked on favourably for release. "Morale is the lowest I have ever seen it, everyone is very sad they are not going," said Mrs Battersby, whose husband Peter is restricted to one floor of the hotel and watched day and night by armed guards.

Mary Kerrins, aged 24, from Sligo on the west coast of Ireland, one of 200 Irish and

43 British nurses who Mr Heath tried but failed to bring home, was more philosophical about being left behind. She went to Baghdad eight months ago on a six-month contract and has been told that she and her colleagues will be allowed to leave only when qualified foreign nurses are prepared to take their place.

"You would have to be pretty hard up to want to come out here," she said. "I have a boy friend back home, or at least I did have. But I suppose that by the time I get back he will probably be married with ten children."

The sense of desperation was felt particularly strongly by Bernard Mandry, aged 40, from Birmingham, a construction engineer who accompanied a 65-year-old colleague, who has been given permission to go home because of his age. "I would be lying if I said that I did not envy him," Mr Mandry said. "But I am not resentful. Just very depressed that I now know I'm going to be here until the end."

PARIS: As a new detachment of French combat troops embarked for duty in Saudi Arabia yesterday, the foreign ministry issued another explicit warning that France is not prepared to negotiate with President Saddam about the fate of its citizens held hostage in Iraq (Philip Jacobson writes).

In a communiqué clearly designed to remove any suspicion among the Western allies that Paris might be contemplating a separate deal, the Quai d'Orsay declared: "The taking of hostages is odious and inadmissible."

The statement took pains to put Baghdad on notice that freeing some of the 300 or more French nationals still held hostage would be "nothing more than reparation for this illegal act".

Thatcher stands by star wars project

BY ANDREW MCWEEN
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

MARGARET Thatcher still supports the strategic defence initiative (star wars) even if the US Congress would prefer to give it a quiet burial. Her continuing interest in the programme was reaffirmed yesterday by Henry Cooper, its director, who called at Downing Street on Monday to brief her on his funding problems.

"She is one of our strongest supporters," Mr Cooper said in an interview admitting that scepticism from congress and elsewhere was now a far greater challenge than the technical problems of placing miniature rockets in space to intercept intercontinental ballistic missiles.

One might question whether his job exists, given the unlikelihood of such missiles being used and the size of the US budget deficit. Mr Cooper, however, sounded confident. "It is a very complicated and challenging job. I would not describe it as a non-job. I gave up a much more profitable job to do this."

Mr Cooper defends "Brilliant Pebbles", the latest refinement of SDI, as a form of insurance. Whitehall sources confirmed that the Prime Minister had always been a supporter of SDI research and felt that the West should be ahead in technology. She visited an SDI research establishment in Colorado in August.

Superman comes down to earth with a proposal

FROM CHARLES BREMNER
IN NEW YORK

AFTER half a century thinking about it, Clark Kent has finally put aside his mild manner, summoned his nerves of steel, and asked Lois Lane for her hand in marriage. Faster than a speeding bullet, she accepted.

DC Comics, which has tracked Superman's exploits since he hit the drawing board in 1938, broke news of the betrothal ahead of the publication of the historic strip on November 1. "End of an era" was the verdict of television news broadcasts yesterday.

Lois takes pity on her fellow reporter at the *Daily Planet* and consents to his bumbling proposal. She remains unaware that the meek Kent is the alter ego of America's original superhero.

But in a move that shocked the faithful, the publishers said yesterday that Kent will eventually reveal to his fiancée the secret that she has known for years ago. After years of barely tolerating her feeble colleague, she has come to realise that Kent is "always there when she needs him", according to the DC Comics announcement. "Being there for someone" is the vogue catch-phrase, adopted of late by everyone from President Bush to telephone companies.

The writing team originally envisaged having Lois say no because she still loves the man of steel but then relented because "she may have been rough and mean on Clark Kent over the years but it was always work-related." For



most of the past 50 years, Lois has borne with an unrequited passion for Superman.

Only in one of the films was the passion consummated. The usual brush-off went like this: "I'd like to be in your arms always, Superman, (sigh)" she told the fighter for truth, justice and the American way, when he rescued her from one scrape or a couple of decades ago. "Uh, Sorry Lois, but you know the answer to that," Superman replied. "My life is a constant round of super-action and danger and only a superhero could keep up with me!"

Kent takes the fateful decision after losing his superpowers in a brush with the dreaded red Kryptonite. Reduced to the level of ordinary

mortal, he opts for married life. At least, it means he no longer needs to hunt for telephone booths in a country which long ago abandoned them. "It's not a gag, not a one-issue trick story," said the publishers. "This time, for the first time since the characters were created, it's for real."

The American appetite for comic-strip titans shows no sign of waning. The *Mutant Turtles* are doing for 1990 children what Superman did for their grandparents, and CBS News has just launched a new evening serial for adults based on the crime-fighting adventures of a body-stocking, faster-than-sound hero called *The Flash*.

Dream or nightmare?, page 18

Budget marathon heads for last lap

FROM SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

AMERICA's latest marathon mini-series — budget talks on Capitol Hill — appeared yesterday to be on track for a more-or-less happy ending as the Bush administration and congressional leaders worked to resolve the remaining big obstacle of how to tax millionaires more heavily.

The matter is big on symbolism, but is not expected to be much help to the government in trimming its soaring federal budget deficit: only about 60,000 Americans return tax forms each year declaring incomes of more than \$1 million, barely enough to fill even some of the country's largest football stadiums.

However, the issue of "fairness", or how to levy more revenues from the wealthy after a decade during which Reagan policies increased the tax burden on the poor and the middle classes, has become the battle cry of Democrats in the run-up to next month's mid-term state and local elections across the United States.

Bitter wrangling over a budget deal during recent weeks has split Mr Bush's Republican party, giving Democrats, as the majority party in Congress, a perfect opportunity to gain the upper hand with the White House in negotiations over taxation.

Under pressure to reach an agreement by today's deadline to prevent the second closure of government services this month, Mr Bush has softened his stance on spending cuts. In

the view of conservative Republicans, he is also about to reverse one of his predecessor's greatest gains by agreeing to an increase in marginal income tax rates.

The bargainers have tentatively agreed on increasing a top-earner's income tax rate to 31 per cent from 28 per cent; a slight rise in petrol tax; cuts in federal medical benefits for the elderly; and a range of "sin" taxes on expensive cars, boats, furs, jewellery, tobacco and alcohol.

House Republicans, who revolted against an original bipartisan budget deal last month after Mr Bush dropped his insistence on a capital gains break, have threatened to vote against whatever emerges from efforts by the administration and Congress to meld a package from House and Senate proposals already passed.

Mr Bush, stepping away for a day from the budget mess in Washington to stump for Republican candidates in the economically depressed region of New England, yesterday called on members of his party to forsake "self-interest" and support a budget plan.

Budget negotiators in Washington sounded hopeful that they were within a hair's breadth of a deal to cut the federal deficit by \$300 billion (£257 billion) over the next five years, and by just over slightly more than \$40 billion in the current financial year.

Election burden, page 22

Change of Mortgage Interest Rate

Change of Mortgage Interest Rate

The rate of interest charged to existing borrowers with mortgages will be reduced. A new tier has been introduced for loans of £100,000 and over.

All of these rates apply from 1st November 1990. The standard rate for mortgages on fully owner occupied residential properties will now be:

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Reformed communists wrestle with the politics of profit

JANOS Petrenko is a capitalist-communist. He drives a Soviet-made Volga limousine but underneath the bonnet is a Mercedes-Benz engine. "That way, the police don't pester me on the road," he declares, proud of his cunning.

Despite his political credentials — a communist party member since 1962 and a deputy in parliament — he has an entrepreneurial flair that may just save the Hungarian steel industry. He started his own business in 1971 and, within the strict limits accorded to private enterprise, he was a success, owning six patent licences which have, by Hungarian standards, made him a rich man. But not, perhaps, rich enough.

The Hungarian steel industry, like all of Eastern Europe's heavy manufacturers, was being kept alive with subsidies, guaranteed Soviet-bloc markets and a muscular political lobby.

There was no incentive to innovate since success was measured by brute input-output statistics. At the Osz metallurgical



works it takes 35 hours to produce a tonne of steel, compared with between three and eight hours in West European plants. The industry was ripe for privatisation — but who will buy? The West German steel companies Korf AG and Metall-Gesellschaft AG scouted around the works and came up with an offer of a joint venture. Several thousand workers would have to be laid off, however, and so the political foot-dragging began in Budapest.

Enter Mr Petrenko, who promptly bought up the MWO rolling mill, part of the MWO complex coveted by the Germans. The mill was a bargain of sorts: about £100,000 for a potentially high-profit works employing 640

In the second extract from his book, *The Hard Road to the Market*, Roger Boyes looks at the problems facing East European businessmen who are tackling the task of trying to shape capitalism without capital.

people. He has completely overhauled the factory, sacking many of the administrators and clerks, computerising production, increasing by 20 per cent the salaries of the remaining workers, and selling directly to the West rather than through the dinosaur-like trading agencies.

The ambition of the 50-year-old businessman, though, was to take over and transform the whole of the MWO plant, which produces 1.5 million tonnes of steel a year. But where was the capital — some £20 million — to come from? Not from Hungarian sources, nor from his own pocket. The Hungarian drummed up the support of Swedish investors, but their credit needed the backing of the Hungar-

ian National Bank, and Budapest balked. The vicious circle of trying to shape capitalism without capital seems to have thwarted Mr Petrenko for the time being.

The problem of finding buyers for East European industry has tempted many local businessmen, usually the former communist management, deliberately to undervalue their factory assets and then offer bargains to the West. In return, they keep their chauffeurs and receive sweeteners. One of the aims of the British know-how fund is to stop this sleight of hand by training a new generation of accountants and giving solid advice on how to value factories that are up for sale. The dearth of domestic capital,

coupled with suspicious about Western joint ventures, has led to a strengthening of government control over privatisation. The Polish prime minister, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, whose government is set to privatise several factories next month, has just appointed his closest economic adviser, Waldemar Kuczyński, to head the privatisation ministry. And the Hungarian State Property Agency — which monitors the sale of state enterprises — has been brought under direct government control.

The privatisation of Polish industry began with the Krosno glassworks, which is being treated as a kind of guinea pig. The procedures have been choreographed with Western, mainly British, help. The assets were objectively valued, balance sheets were checked by outside accountants, an efficiency forecast was drawn up by the consultants Moore Stephens, while the London-based Schroder bank is watching over the stock issue. Workers will be entitled to some preference shares,

and there seems to be considerable interest from Polish investors. But the investment habit has to be learned, as does the idea that capital can be risked. Krosno is one of the jewels in the crown, but even so it is vulnerable — for example if Soviet natural gas deliveries to Poland are stopped, or slowed. How should a Polish investor, without even a stock exchange or a developed financial market, react to such normal commercial ups and downs? Nobody knows yet.

The political questions about privatisation centre on unemployment and employee participation. Workers are already sensing that they are the main victims of the market revolution. Unemployment in Poland will be 1.2 million by the end of the year, 100,000 in Hungary. Officially, last year there was no unemployment at all.

How then to persuade workers that privatisation does not just mean more, and faster, unemployment? The Polish government has toyed with the idea of large-scale

worker share ownership — perhaps on the model of the British National Freight Corporation — but the mood has moved decisively against this "economic bolshevism" as how government advisers now describe it. Even a bill to make a one-off issue of free or low-cost shares to Gdansk shipyard workers has stumbled into trouble. The free marketeers have learned to organise over the past six months and now form a more powerful lobby than the worker-romantic faction of Solidarity.

But the real challenge of privatisation, the second stage of the East European revolutions, is in the workings of the individual markets that influence everyday life. It is there, in the fight for housing, cars and decent social services, that the limits of public tolerance will be tested.

Next: the housing market

The *Hard Road to the Market* is published by Secker and Warburg on October 29.

Britain 'will opt for France' as partner in missile project

By ANDREW McEWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

AS BRITAIN and France held defence talks yesterday, a senior British expert predicted the two countries would undertake joint development of an air-launched nuclear cruise missile.

Tom King, the defence secretary, who met Jean-Pierre Chevènement, his French counterpart, is believed to be close to a decision on whether to co-operate with the United States or France. Colonel Michael Dewar, deputy director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, said he believed political factors would cause the government to choose the French. He understood an announcement was likely before the end of the year to develop a nuclear

missile capable of being launched from an aircraft without first penetrating an enemy's air defences. The project is described in Britain as TASM — tactical air-to-surface missile — and as ASLP (air-sol longue portée) in France.

David Owen, MP for Plymouth Devonport, an advocate of greater Anglo-French defence co-operation, said he greatly hoped the government would choose the French. "It is an historic decision... profoundly important for the development of Europe."

Michel Rocard, the French prime minister, said on Monday that such co-operation could have "considerable impact on European security."

The Ministry of Defence said no decision had been taken, but an initial report on the feasibility of Anglo-French co-operation would be ready by the end of the year. The two countries have been discussing it for three years.

However, Colonel Dewar believes the advantages of working with France have become stronger recently. Britain can no longer assume America will be a permanent supplier of nuclear systems. Washington has assured the government it will honour its commitment to sell the sea-launched Trident missile, and any successor, but Colonel Dewar says over the next five to ten years the Soviet Union might well persuade the US to reconsider supplying Britain.

He believes Nato will subdivide, with America and Canada in one group and the EC and Western European Union in another. At present, the WEU is regarded as the European pillar of Nato, but Gianni De Michelis, the Italian foreign minister, has proposed linking it to the Community. Margaret Thatcher would probably prefer the US option, but Colonel Dewar says a combination of doubts over Washington's long-term view and EC pressures could change this.

The French have been pressing the British for some time to make up their minds. The advantages for Paris are more budgetary than political. Its inter-continental ballistic missiles will need replacing by the end of the century and Colonel Dewar believes France will phase them out and rely on a combination of its submarine-launched nuclear missiles and ASLP.

A combination of Trident and TASM would also suit Britain, which needs a new weapon to fill defence gaps caused by the withdrawal of American cruise missiles under the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty of 1988. The Nato decision not to build a replacement for the Lance missile; the withdrawal of nuclear artillery shells from Europe; and the probability that Germany will insist on all nuclear weapons being withdrawn from its territory.

A MoD source said the priority was to replace Britain's free-fall nuclear bombs. The Anglo-French option was seen not so much as co-operation as purchasing an existing French delivery system, while the US option would involve joint development of a new one. It was for this reason Britain signed a memorandum of understanding with America, but not France. The move did not imply it was leaning towards choosing the Americans.



Touch of harmony: Helen Hayes, the first lady of the American theatre, getting a kiss from the country music star, Randy Travis, at a party in New York to celebrate the actress's 90th birthday. She is a country fan.

Hardline Soviet hecklers fail to preserve trade union dinosaur

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

ONE of the Soviet Union's many institutional dinosaurs, the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, is to be laid to rest this week after five mostly uncontentious decades. When the 2,300 delegates assembled for their 19th full congress in the Kremlin's Palace of Congresses yesterday, they discovered to their consternation that it was to be the last.

On the agenda, they found an item providing for the "establishment of the All-Union Confederation of Trade Unions of the USSR". The fourth point on the agenda occasioned great agitation among delegates who interrupted proceedings repeatedly in the opening minutes to clarify the issue.

The chairman's attempts to railroad it through were greeted with loud heckling from delegates who wanted a vote taken on whether to dissolve the old union before establishing the new one. Despite the vocal opposition, the computer votes showed an overwhelming "yes" for all the proposals from the chair in

accordance with the old-style reputation of the council. The turmoil was observed with detachment by the leadership troika of President Gorbachev, Anatoli Lukyanov, the Supreme Soviet chairman, and Nikolai Ryzhkov, the prime minister, who had been invited to sit on the platform.

The opening report, given by the deputy chairman of the council, Vladimir Shcherbakov, reflected the degree to which the official trade unions have had to change to keep any members at all. There was much about the need to oppose the government's economic policy, to extract an annual undertaking on a minimum wage, holiday entitlement and social benefits, and on the obligation of the unions to fight for the rights and social protection of workers.

Later, there was outspoken criticism from the floor of the former chairman of the council, Gennadi Yanyayev, who was transferred to the Communist party politburo in July. Although the transfer is unlikely to have been entirely his decision, he was con-

demned for betraying the cause or "showing his true colours". The council failed to elect a new chairman at their summer meeting and it now appears that this is because of the decision to change the name, and probably the character, of the organisation.

Some speakers expressed concern that the official trade unions were being sidelined as new political bodies such as the soviets and republic parliaments took a greater role. They demanded that the trade unions give their approval before plants were sold off and that the workers should be given first refusal on whether to take over the enterprise. One objected that the unions were being treated constitutionally as little more than "social clubs".

While opinions will differ about the significance of the change of name, the trade union organisation is none the less the first national organisation to use the word confederation and move towards a fully federal structure.

Media task, page 17

German underclass 'living in poverty' amid prosperity

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

ONE person in ten in the western part of Germany is living on or below the poverty line, while the social problems in the east are even worse, according to a study published yesterday by the German trade union federation.

Frau Ursula Engelen-Kiefer, the federation's deputy chairman, said: "Never have there been so many poor people living in wealthy federal Germany." The unions defined as poor all those who could spend less than half of the national average income. For a family of four this worked out at around £156 a week. About four million people were in this category.

The study, called "Poverty in prosperity", concluded that Germany was turning into a "two-thirds society", in which the income and material wealth of the majority were improving considerably, while the plight of the unemployed, one-parent and large families was in no way getting better. Since the beginning of the 1980s, the federation claimed, the number of people needing social assistance had doubled, although only around half knew how to claim everything to which they were entitled.

A quarter of all one-parent families were already below the poverty line, while poor people generally were less healthy and died sooner. "In the area of social security, Germany ingloriously holds

the tail-light position in international comparisons," the report complained. The lack of care led almost inevitably to the further impoverishment of the hardest-hit cases.

Reunification would add to the problems of the poor in the western part of the country, the study claimed, because resources and effort would now be concentrated on improving the situation in the east, where things were in a worse state. The plight of those in the west would be forgotten.

The federation is calling for an annual poverty report to be prepared independently to review the needs of the poor. As a first step, it wants to see fiscal reforms which will ensure that an "existence minimum" of income is untaxed. On top of that, the federation considers it essential that the level of state contributions to child benefits is raised.

© BONN: The communist rulers of East Germany diverted much of the money they received from Bonn for road maintenance to other budgets, according to the federal accounting office. It said that only a small portion of the funds, which totalled DM525 million (£178 million) last year, actually went towards the upkeep of road links between West Berlin and West Germany. (Reuters)

Bridge builders, page 19

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Althusser death symbolizes marxist decline

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE death of the French philosopher Louis Althusser yesterday marks a further stage in the slow demise of an era: a period when marxism and neo-marxism of various kinds were not only inescapable but often dominant themes in French intellectual debate.

He taught at the Ecole Normale Supérieure until he strangled his wife in 1980, but was found incapable of standing trial and sent to a clinic, where he spent three years. A lifelong member of the French Communist Party, he was a sharp critic of it.

Althusser belonged to a line of French marxist intellectuals, including Sartre and Foucault, who dominated intellectual life for four decades. The era inspired by marxism has lasted longer than anywhere else in France and Germany. Althusser's

death may be part of the end of an era but, as liberals triumph, the sharpness and subtlety of his thought should be remembered.

The debates of the era touched only specialists in Britain; and they were rare. France, however, was a hotbed of passionate discussion, not confined to experts or technical philosophers, but spilling over into general intellectual discourse. French marxists were particularly close to their German colleagues, and contributed to what at times looked like an almost exclusively continental European debate.

Althusser's main contribution to marx was to try to disentangle Marx from Hegel. What was in question, once again, was Marx's early thought — the so-called "economic and philosophical manuscripts" written in 1844.

Here, the Hegelian influence was much in evidence — particularly in the concept of "alienation". For Hegel, this had meant the process whereby the mind begins to acquire self-consciousness by "objectifying" itself. Marx transferred the concept to the social sphere, seeing "alienation" as the condition of workers reduced to being mere pawns, "alienated" from the system in which they were enmeshed. For Hegel's objectification Marx read "reification" — "thingifying", dehumanising life.

All this, Althusser argued, was far from central to Marx's thought. What Althusser identified as central was a structuralist interpretation of society.

Today, looking back over the barbed-wire entanglements of critical theory and the ruins of the Berlin Wall,

some of this obsessive concentration on the nuances of what Marx meant seems anachronistic. Some, but not all. Structuralism, in fact, has lent useful tools to political and literary analysts. But, with Althusser's death, a page in France has certainly turned.

Even 20 years ago, it was almost not respectable in academic circles to question the reputation of Marx and marxist thinkers. But today fashionable French philosophy has abandoned Marx.

First came the so-called "New Philosophers", whom their critics denied both words of their adopted title. Then came the so-called Solzhenitsyn effect — the belated realisation that all was not well in the Soviet Union. The revolutions in Eastern Europe and the reunification of Germany have made Solzhenitsyns of us all.



Althusser: member and critic of French party

Peking welcomes end of sanctions

Peking — China has welcomed the European Community's decision to lift economic sanctions imposed after the June 4 killings last year (Catherine Sampson writes).

A foreign ministry spokesman said yesterday: "In our view, the decision made at the meeting of the EC foreign ministers in Luxembourg to restore relations with China is a sensible one. We hope that the two sides will make joint efforts to further improve and develop the relations between China and Europe."

The spokesman made no mention of the killings, but said that China valued relations with Europe which were based on non-interference in each other's internal affairs. Nor was there any mention of human rights issues in China.

The EC foreign ministers said they had seen some progress on human rights issues. China has released nearly 900 people detained in the hardline backlash after the killings, including some prominent intellectuals.

Lorry drivers close Alps pass

Rome — Several hundred lorry drivers from Austria, Germany, The Netherlands and Italy, protesting against new restrictions on heavy vehicle traffic over the Brenner Pass, closed Italy's principal route through the Alps (Richard Bassett writes).

They sealed off customs buildings at the Italian-Austrian frontier and isolated the motorway south into Italy from Innsbruck. Reports spoke of tourists forced to abandon their vehicles and mile-long queues. The busy crossing handles on average more than 3,000 lorries a day.

Manila alert

Manila — The Philippines put troops around the country on combat alert after rebels bombed the offices of Caltex and Shell oil companies here, and radical unions, supported by communist guerrillas, vowed to halt industries and transport with a strike today. Moderate unions held off plans to join the strike for a reduction in fuel prices, and wage increases, saying they would wait for the outcome of negotiations with government wage boards. (Reuters)

Rwanda impasse

Kigali — Rwandan rebels said they accept a ceasefire offer but cannot withdraw from northeast Rwanda, as demanded by the government. Major Peter Bayingana, a rebel spokesman, said: "Most of us are deserters from the Ugandan army and we can't go back to Uganda." In Belgium, the Rwandan ambassador said his government stood firm on the condition of a rebel withdrawal before any ceasefire. (AFP)

Packer recovers

Sydney — Kerry Packer, the Australian businessman who had a heart attack at a polo match 16 days ago, is in a satisfactory condition after a "routine" four-hour heart bypass operation. St Vincent's private hospital said Mr Packer, aged 52, who owns Australia's highest-rating television station and its largest magazine empire, could be discharged today. (Reuters)

Angolan delay

Lisbon — Peace talks planned for this week between UNITA rebels and the left-wing Angolan government have been delayed by technical factors, Portuguese mediators said. The negotiations, the fifth hosted by Portugal in seven months, in an attempt to end the 15-year civil war, might take place next week but it could be later. They gave no more details. (Reuters)

Singh on the brink after Hindu party ends support

From COOMBE KAPOOR IN DELHI

THE Indian minority government of V. P. Singh was on the brink of collapse yesterday after the Bharatiya Janata Party withdrew the support of its 86 MPs. The 11-month administration of Mr Singh has 147 MPs, and survived with the support of the right-wing pro-Hindu BJP and the communist parties.

High cost of living angers villages

By CHRISTOPHER THOMAS

THERE is a theory that in 11 turbulent months of power Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the prime minister of India, has made himself the parish of the small high-caste urban elite, the darling of Muslims, the saviour of the 'low-caste' masses, and the favourite of Harijans (untouchables).

By this assessment he should be the most popular politician in the history of India. Yet he presides over a dismally disliked and polarised government that has alienated the rural masses by its failure to fulfil a torrent of excessive campaign promises. Village India, where elections are won and lost, is angry with Mr Singh.

Beyond caste and communalism, beyond the trannies of Kashmir, Punjab and Assam, the issue that stalks Indian politics today is prices. Mr Singh's passionate case, which has unleashed massive high-caste violence in the acute sensitive northern heartland, has demonstrably failed to excite the 450 million Indians who are either Harijans (17 per cent of the population), low castes (22 per cent), or tribals (5 per cent). Far from improving their lives, the policy has heightened higher-caste antagonism towards them. Mr Singh is not being thanked for his grand gesture.

But the real reason for Mr Singh's failure is to be found in the government's ration shops across the teeming countryside. Petrol and other oil products went up 25 per cent a fortnight ago, a blow to every poor villager who will ever buy a can of paraffin from the local ration shop.

In the meantime India has no effective government. Mr Singh's only hope for survival or re-election is the caste equation: the Bharatiya Janata Party had to choose between saving the government or itself, and it chose the latter.

whip up support for a BJP-sponsored plan to build a Hindu temple on the site of a Muslim mosque at Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh.

Mr Advani had ignored the pleas of most political parties to call off his journey. A large entourage has accompanied him and he has been cheered by crowds all along the route.

His theme was *Hindutva*, or the resurgence of Hinduism, the religion of around 80 per cent of the Indian population. Mr Advani was arrested on the orders of Laloo Prasad Yadav, the Janata Dal chief minister, on the grounds that his campaign was inciting religious hatred and could lead to a breakdown of law and order. The BJP, led by Atal Behari Vajpayee, and Hindu organisations have called for the closure of all offices, shops and other establishments throughout the country today in protest.

Mr Singh, who met President Venkataraman yesterday, asked that his strength be tested in parliament, which is not at present in session. Mr Singh hopes to win support for his government's decision not to allow the construction of the temple in Ayodhya, even though his government is unlikely to survive a no-confidence vote. The main opposition party, Congress (I), headed by Rajiv Gandhi, has 196 MPs. President Venkataraman said he would look into the constitutional position before deciding what action to take.

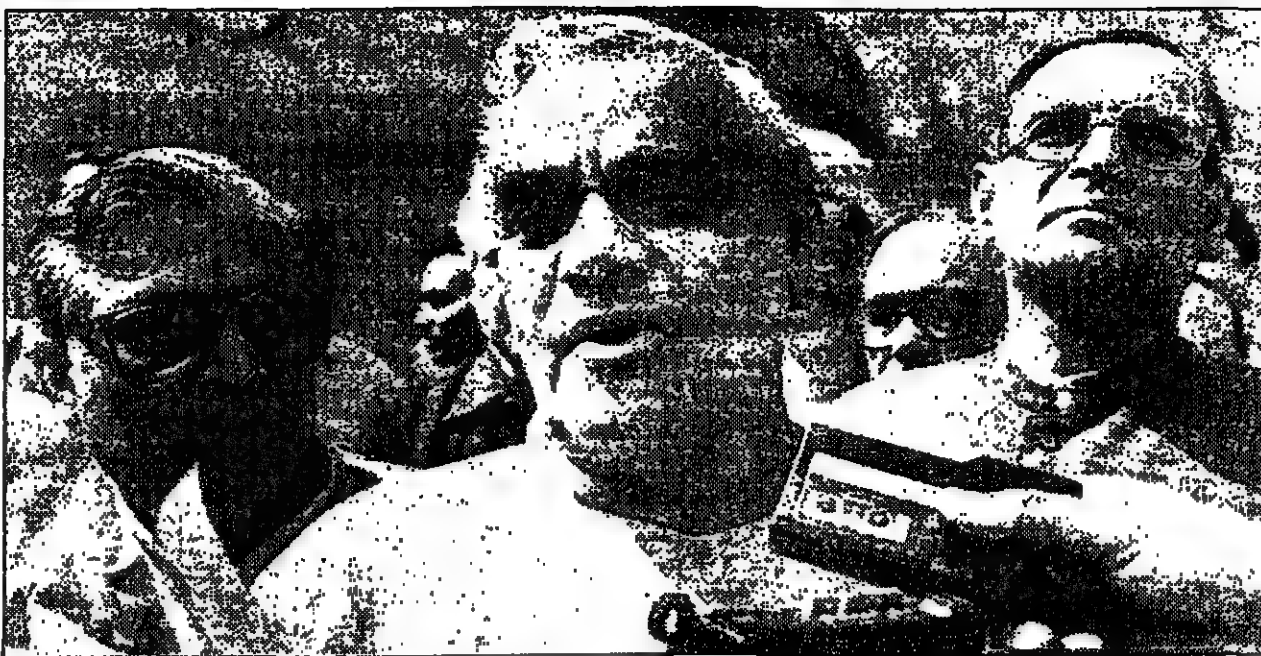
Most political observers feel there are only two possibilities: either a mid-term poll is called, or a breakaway section of Janata Dal tries to form a government backed by Congress. Mr Gandhi has indicated that Congress will support any government which does not include Mr Singh or the BJP.

Although frantic attempts have been made in the past few weeks to work out a solution to the temple issue, Mr Singh's government has failed to come up with a formula acceptable to Hindus and Muslims. A government ordinance to take over the disputed land was revoked after protests by Muslim fundamentalists.

On Monday night Mr Singh, in a broadcast on national television, declared that any number of governments could be sacrificed to save the nation and that the law would be upheld at all costs until the courts decided the temple-mosque issue.

The BJP accuses Janata Dal of pandering to the Muslim community with a deliberate eye on gaining Muslim support in elections. About 10 per cent of the Indian population are Muslims.

While it is too early to predict the outcome of any mid-term election, Mr Gandhi, the former prime minister, appears to have an edge. Indians are fed up with the instability of Mr Singh's government, and Mr Gandhi has been attracting large crowds at his meetings.



Powers that be: V. P. Singh, the Indian prime minister, top left, is clinging on to office after Atal Behari Vajpayee, above, withdrew his party's support for the government following the arrest of L. K. Advani, top right, the Hindu revivalist

Jatoi stops MPs crossing floor to join Bhutto

By CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN ISLAMABAD AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

PAKISTAN'S caretaker government under Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, the acting prime minister, yesterday published an ordinance banning floor-crossing by individual MPs, a move clearly designed to hamper any post-election attempt by Benazir Bhutto to piece together a government.

The move came amid confident predictions by the Islamic Democratic Alliance, an eight-party coalition, that Miss Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party will be unable to form an administration without substantial "horse-trading" — the euphemism for offering bribes or other incentives to MPs in return for support.

The ordinance takes immediate effect. It provides for an MP to be disqualified from parliament if he crosses the floor to a rival camp in defiance of instructions from his party.

The Pakistani authorities meanwhile filed another charge of abuse of power against Miss Bhutto and extended her husband's detention on the eve of the elections. The charge of illegal appointments to government jobs was filed before a one-man tribunal in the Punjab capital of Lahore, the official APP news agency said. The hearing has been set for November 5. This was the seventh charge brought against Miss Bhutto after President Ishaq Khan dismissed her 20-month-old government on August 6 and promised fresh elections.

A magistrate in Karachi again remanded Miss Bhutto's husband, Asif Ali Zardari, in police custody until tomorrow, a lawyer acting for him said. The order means Mr Zardari, who was arrested on October 10 in connection with extortion and illegal bank loans, will contest today's election for the National Assembly (lower house of parliament) from a police cell.

Miss Bhutto met her husband in a police investigation centre before he was taken to court, and later told reporters his morale was very high. Mr Zardari said outside the court that he had been kept in a "torture cell". But senior Bhutto aides said there was no indication that he was being mistreated.

Miss Bhutto denies accusations of abuse of power levelled at her by the caretaker government of her political opponents which has set up 12 special courts to try her and her colleagues. Two courts in Lahore and one in Karachi are examining six charges ranging from the cheap sale of prime land in Islamabad for a hotel to misuse of secret service funds.

Miss Bhutto appealed to people yesterday to vote for her party in today's polls. "Vote for arrow," she said, referring to the PPP's election symbol, one of those allotted to parties by the election authorities in order to help illiterate voters. "Victory is ours from Khyber to Karachi," she said.

The polls open at 8am throughout Pakistan as the country's fifth general election — but only the third democratic one — gets under way. About 50 million voters will choose 207 Muslim MPs, plus ten from religious minorities.

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Sleaze takes hold in Phnom Penh

From JAMES FRINGLE IN PHNOM PENH

NOISY, cognac-swilling, nouveau riches Cambodian traders throng the restaurants of Phnom Penh, saving away with toothpicks at mouthfuls of gold-filled teeth. At nightclubs along the Tonle Sap river, they push mountains of food aside, and bellow boozey suggestions to painted Vietnamese prostitutes.

Elsewhere in Cambodia, not far beyond the boundaries of the capital, people may be dying in rice fields sown with mines, or facing hunger pangs in makeshift camps for displaced people, or cowering in bunkers and staring out into the night, where the murderous Khmer Rouge lurk.

But in the capital, which in 1975 was emptied of people by the soldiers of Pol Pot, who hated city folk, it is as if there were no tomorrow. The traders, and the nomenclature of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party, the single permitted political party, have never had it so good.

The traders, many of whom have good political connections, are making their fortunes selling gems, rubber and timber. Smuggling and corruption are commonplace, though some officials have been jailed as an example.

It is the traders who import the cars, motorbikes and consumer goods which in the past two years, since the Vietnam-backed regime introduced a market economy, are evidence of a boom. This is a boom

which is already ending as Soviet aid diminishes drastically under Moscow's worldwide cutbacks to its allies.

The days of Phnom Penh's gracious living and good manners are over, perhaps for ever. "We don't go out any more," said one foreign relief worker who knows Cambodia well. "There are too many gangsters about."

There is also an outbreak of dengue fever with 3,500 cases so far; the mortality rate is 5 per cent, mostly young children. The sewage system has broken down and ordure fills some streets near the central market.

There is another, more edifying side to Phnom Penh life, typified by the street they call "London". Here, every night, young people cram makeshift classrooms in wooden-built private schools to learn English, Thai and Japanese.

The larger burden of the war seems to be borne unjustly by the country people these days. This is just how it has always been in Cambodia.

War weariness is endemic everywhere, but in the rural areas there is an extra note of exhaustion and desperation.

"The gap is growing between the capital and the countryside," said one foreign relief agency official. "That, in the end, may not work to the benefit of the Phnom Penh regime. It is a road Cambodia has been down before."

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Stirrings in the South

Martin Jacques

Eastbourne was certainly a disaster for the Conservatives, but on the face of it there was little to encourage Labour either. Labour may be running high in the opinion polls, but its share of the vote fell from a bare 9 per cent to a miserable 3 per cent. If Labour is to win the next election, it must make a limited breakthrough in the South. In the 1987 general election, it won only three seats outside London and south of a line from the Severn to the Wash. The test of Labour's capacity to become a national rather than an essentially regional party is its ability to rebuild in the south of England.

Labour's decline in the South is not a recent phenomenon: it dates from the mid-1950s. Since then the South has become by far the most prosperous region, with the highest share of gainers and the smallest proportion of losers. The occupational structure of the South has prefigured national trends, with a disproportionate representation of those burgeoning groups among which Labour does relatively badly. And Labour's roots have never been nearly as strong in the South as in the North, and so were especially vulnerable to the cultural changes of the last 30 years.

These long-term trends have found particularly potent expression in the past decade. During the 1980s the southern economy boomed, with unemployment well below that of the North. House prices rocketed, fuelling support for home-ownership. The occupational structure shifted rapidly as high-tech firms gravitated to the M4 corridor, science parks and the like, international firms established their research centres in the South, and finance and business services clustered in the South-east to service the City. Labour was not simply in retreat, but routed. The South was the testament to Labour's inability to move with the times. It became symbolic of triumphant Thatcherism.

Today, however, much of the euphoria has evaporated. The coming recession, by all accounts, is likely to hit the South rather harder than the North. High interest rates have undermined the housing market in the South above all. The optimism surrounding economic growth in the mid-1980s has given way to a rising concern about the environment and the consequences of that growth. In short, the South is no longer isolated by exceptional growth and prosperity. Instead its problems are beginning to resemble those of the rest of the country. Thatcherism's relationship with the region is nothing like as secure as it was.

Despite its poor Eastbourne showing, there are signs of a Labour recovery. According to the latest Gallup poll figures, Labour is about 4 per cent behind the

Conservatives in the South, compared with almost 31 per cent in 1987. Such aggregate figures can of course be deceptive. In a majority of Tory-held southern seats (Eastbourne among them), the Alliance came second in 1987. In these Labour has no hope of winning, and its best bet, if it is to become the largest party in the Commons, must be tactical voting along the lines of Eastbourne last week. In a minority of constituencies, however, Labour came second in 1987, and some of these it must win.

Throughout the 1980s Labour managed to retain control of a significant number of local authorities in the South and more recently has begun to make gains. Milton Keynes, Oxford, Brighton, Southampton, Exeter and Basingdon are among many councils surprisingly controlled by Labour. Of course, Labour has generally found it easier to win council seats than seats in Parliament, because local elections are about the administration of public services, whereas during the 1980s general elections have been predominantly about taxes and defence. Nonetheless, running local councils is a crucial springboard to winning parliamentary seats.

Labour's recovery at the local level has not simply been about votes. One senses a new Labour-in-the-making in those parts of the South where it stands some chance: Southampton, Swindon or Bristol, for example. Here public-sector professionals still tend to constitute the biggest single group of councillors, but there is now a sizeable presence of private-sector professionals drawn from such fields as finance and business services. Until recently, the deputy leader of the Swindon Labour group was the personnel manager of Allied Dunbar. Meanwhile, little remains of the manufacturing trade-union connection which was until very recently so important.

Moreover, there are councils that emphasise efficiency and modernisation in their aim of delivering high-quality public services. The councils identify closely with the economic prosperity of their towns and seek close partnerships with the private sector. There is also a growing preoccupation with environmental issues. Many of these councils differ little in their style, priorities and composition from equivalent socialist councils in Germany and France. In much of the South, Labour has no hope for the general election and little prospect for the future. The damage of the 1980s was too great and the original base too weak. But elsewhere there is evidence that Labour can stage some kind of recovery. The South is no longer Thatcher's playground, and Labour has begun to construct a new kind of culture more representative of the groups to which it must appeal.

...and moreover

CRAIG BROWN

I have often been asked how I came to be admitted into the enchanted circle of Mr Wallace Arnold. In *Who's Who* he describes himself as "one of the foremost scriveners de nos jours, friend to many of our leading politicians, confidant of Royalty (beloved godfather to Princess Beatrice), cornerstone of the Centre for Policy Studies, flagship columnist for *The Spectator*, Entertainment Secretary of the Garrick Club 1978... author of many tomes in *The Punch Book of Motoring* (1969) and *Paradise My Swallow* (1981)..." Surely, my friends seem to suggest, flickers of jealousy illuminating their faces, a man of such distinction would have little time for you?

I am, I suppose, not much more than a sounding-board for the great man, an unpaid secretary, willing to listen and annotate as he relates his entrancing anecdotes about the men of influence with whom he has rubbed shoulders.

I first met Wallace Arnold after he had returned from holiday with Sir Nicolas and Elena Ceausescu, a couple then very much in vogue. "It was at this intimate gathering," he said, "that Sir David Steel presented Sir Nicolas with an adorable pedigree hunting dog called Gladstone. Such was the Ceausescus' gratitude that on the morning Lady Elena came down to breakfast with the proud beast already boned and skinned, its handsome fur lending her neckline a touch of much-needed glamour."

Later, Mr Arnold was to insist that "at no time did I regard the Romanian leader with anything less than the deepest suspicion, and I consistently argued against his policies to his face on my extended visits to his holiday villa in 1973, '75, '78 (twice), '80, '83, '86 and '87." He is, as he maintains, a man of principle, and that is why so many people in the public eye choose to confide in him. Even the obsessively secretive Graham Greene never misses an opportunity to open up his heart to Wallace Arnold, who is for ever having to advise him on more appropriate camouflage. "My notoriously private friend Mr Graham Greene," Arnold once told me, "has, in a desperate bid for the obscurity

he craves, taken to restricting his exclusive interviews to no more than two a week. In recent years, Graham has gone to great lengths to disguise his identity on his visits to London, now donning black leathers and tin helmet to parade as just another motorcycle messenger around the literary salons of Bedford Square, now dressing as Santa when taking cocktails at Le Caprice. I regret to say that in my experience, the placard he wears throughout his annual sojourn at the Ritz ("I AM NOT GRAHAM GREENE") often fails to fool the eagle-eyed."

By no means all Mr Arnold's friends are so *louche* or so shy. He has the fondest memories of Mr Enoch Powell, for instance. "I first made the acquaintance of this brilliant intellect at a drinks party he gave to celebrate the anniversary of the Battle of Balaklava," he once confided to me. "Clad in the appropriate head-dress, his moustache just visible through the mouth-hole, Enoch fixed me with his penetrating stare and asked me what alcoholic beverage I cared to imbibe. I asked him for a gin and tonic. With impeccable logic, he arrived back with two beakers, one filled with gin, the other with tonic. 'You made no mention whatsoever within the terms of your initial request that the two fluids should be mixed in any way,' he replied to my protestations, his spurs playing havoc with the carpet as he spoke."

Other acquaintances of whom Mr Arnold liked to boast included the entire Milford family, including Muv, Farv, the ill-trained butler Shuv and the nouveau-riche governess, Parv, and those extraordinary children — Decca, the recording artiste, the anorexic Pecca, the flint Necca, the anarchist Recca and the young Kurdish fundamentalist, Mecca.

To have been asked to edit Mr Arnold's new collection of such reminiscences has indeed been a privilege, and as one of the "numerous unnamed little people" Mr Arnold is gracious to thank in his Introduction. I confess to feeling rather proud. *The Incredible World of Wallace Arnold*, edited by Craig Brown, illustrated by William Rushin, is published tomorrow (Fourth Estate, £9.99).

Wilfred Beckerman says the world will suffer if we heed the global-warming doomsters

Keep cool and spurn the scientists

Today's report on climate change and world agriculture from the Royal Geographical Society and next week's ministerial conference in Geneva are the latest acts in the recent global warming drama. The audience should be more sceptical.

The main source of the concern about global warming is the predictions of scientists. All over the world they are urging governments to make major reductions in carbon dioxide emissions to prevent their exceeding levels in the atmosphere that the scientists decide — arbitrarily — are the limit of what can be accepted.

What the costs of doing so might be in terms of the other things we would have to give up (houses, hospitals, schools, roads, not to mention the countless other goods and services that make up our standard of living) is seldom counted, let alone balanced against estimates of the damage that global warming might do (usually trivial). We are expected obediently to accept the line "Trust me, I'm a scientist".

The Geneva conference will reinforce this line. The scientific working group of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

whose report forms the basis of the deliberations, has already recommended drastic cuts in carbon dioxide emissions. The group's influence on our thinking is already evident in the recent white paper on the environment.

Statements to the effect that, for example, "Global warming is one of the biggest environmental challenges now facing the world" merely help to perpetuate the current hysteria.

By distracting attention from serious environmental problems that could be resolved at relatively low cost, the global warming scare has not merely spawned more nonsense over the last couple of years than any other single topic, it has also done positive harm to the environment. Instead of taking a firm stand and surveying the mounting counter evidence, not to mention the need to weigh up the costs and benefits of alternative courses of action, the white paper joins in the chorus.

It tamely reports the conclusions reached by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, that unless preventive action is taken, the average global climate will be 3°C warmer by the end of the next century. So what? I have

just returned from Australia, where the average temperature exceeds that of Britain by a far greater margin and where people seem to flourish quite nicely, thank you. In fact, millions of people want to emigrate to Australia. Over the last few decades millions of Americans have migrated to southern states in search of a warmer climate. A few degrees' warming and future generations of Americans will not need to go to the trouble.

What people forget is that the world population is distributed over a very wide range of temperatures and manages to cope very well with the differences. Nothing could be more absurd than the notion that the human race is some tender, delicate species that can survive only in a temperature band of three degrees.

Many areas of the world would actually gain from global warming, such as those where the agricultural growing periods would be extended and vast new areas opened up to cultivation — not to mention the favourable effect that carbon dioxide has on plant growth. And some countries would lose considerably by draconian measures to reduce carbon

dioxide emissions. Estimates surveyed by authorities such as Professor William Nordhaus of Yale University, or William Cline of the Institute for International Economics, for example, all show that a rise of about three degrees associated with a doubling of the carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere would leave total world agricultural output more or less unchanged, and that even including other effects, notably of the rising sea-level, the reduction in world output by the end of the next century would probably only be about 1 per cent of total output.

Meanwhile, assuming that real incomes per head go on rising on average at about 1.5 per cent per annum over the next 100 years, they would be about 4.4 times as high as they are now. So even if the estimates of global warming damage are too low and the damage turns out to be twice or three times as great — i.e. 2 or 3 per cent of total world output — this means that in a hundred years' time average incomes will still be about 4.3 times as high as they are now.

There is nothing morally superior about imposing heavy burdens on society today, which includes countless millions of very

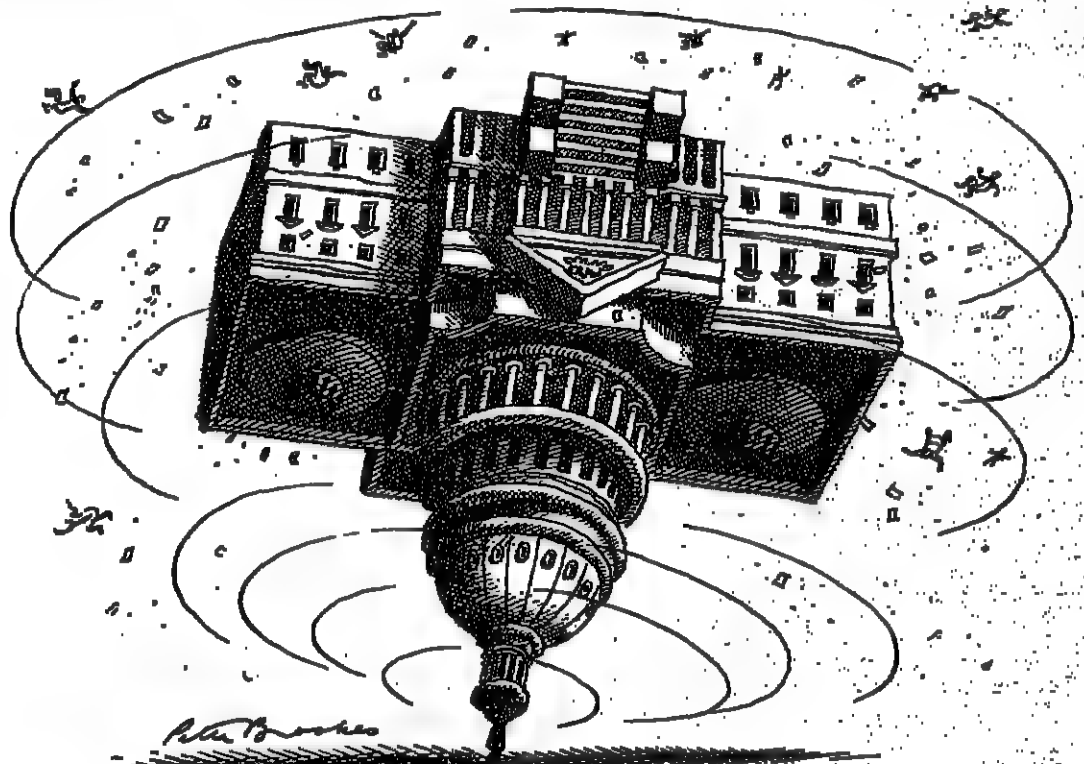
poor people, in order that the population around the end of the next century should be 4.4 times as rich as we are now rather than only 4.3 times as rich. Environmentalist pressure groups must not be allowed to get away with the fiction that they occupy the moral high ground and represent the conscience of humanity.

None of this implies that greenhouse gases should not be reduced, where this can be done at low or zero cost. Hence, the white paper is right to concentrate action on a number of areas in which energy economies can be obtained, or carbon dioxide emissions reduced, simply by removing market distortions, by greater public knowledge of energy economics, or by promoting research and development. It is also right to phase out CFCs, since substitutes are relatively inexpensive. But it would be absurd to be driven by self-righteous environmentalist lobbies to adopt the far more drastic action they are clamouring for. I am tempted to say "Trust me, I'm an economist". But that might be asking too much.

The author is a Fellow of Balliol College, Oxford.

Republicans turn their back as Bush becomes a liability

Peter Stothard, US editor, reports on attempts to keep the White House at a distance in the mid-term elections



President Bush has just found the perfect site to end the last week of campaigning before the congressional elections on November 6. In a rare break with protocol that has surprised his advisers, he is to go to dilapidated downtown Cincinnati to fight not for an incumbent senatorial grandee or a governor who needs a million dollars in a hurry, but for a first-time Republican challenger in a lowly House seat in Ohio.

Some of the reasons are clear enough. Ken Blackwell is a rising star of the conservative movement, a former mayor and Dallas Cowboys footballer who quotes the Bible and *Alice in Wonderland* in his speeches. And he aims to become the first black Republican in the House of Representatives since 1932.

Unlike most black leaders (including those in the administration itself), Mr Blackwell supports the president's controversial veto this week of a bill that would force companies to hire black workers in proportion to the local black population. He is against racial quotas and other demeaning tactics of "affirmative action".

He represents the philosophy of "empowering" inner-city populations by the sale of public housing, privatisation and voucher schemes. He has the ideas that a growing number of White House aides believe Mr Bush must adopt if he is to save his presidency from the drift and disaster symbolised by the budget battle.

But Mr Blackwell, who is running neck-and-neck with Democrat Charles Luken, son of the retiring congressman, also has a more immediate use. In the Ohio First District, the voters still think that America is heading in the right direction under the Bush presidency. In a reversal of the

national figures, twice as many people think the country is doing well as think it is heading for the rocks. Cynics look at these numbers and quote Mark Twain's remark that things happen in Cincinnati ten years after they happen everywhere else.

But Mr Bush is not a cynic. He is looking for hopeful signs after a week of nasty news for the White House from Illinois, North Carolina, Texas and other states where he has made big campaign appearances for Republican candidates. The message there is: George Bush loses votes.

White House aides have quickly donned their damage-control suits to counter this slur. "No one had to go to the president with a computer print-out and a cocked pistol on a silver tray," said one. "The numbers were not clear enough to lock him up in the Oval Office," joked another. The news was unwelcome, none the less. Amid evidence of fiery discontent around the nation, here were strong hints that the man from the White House merely fanned the flames of anger and that those who stood nearest got burnt.

Earlier this year when Republican hopefuls invited Mr Bush to speak on their behalf, they were looking for reflected glory from the most popular president in recent memory. That popularity, though still high, is now falling fast. Mr Bush brings little to his out-of-town meetings but bonhomie. Yesterday he added an unpersuasive presentation of himself as an anti-establishment outsider.

The rivets of anti-communism and anti-taxation that held together the stump-rhetoric of 1988 have been ripped away. There is nothing coherent in their place.

He stands up before supporters of Senator Jesse Helms in the racially sensitive contest in North Carolina and offers the success of his international coalition-building against Saddam Hussein. To his hearers around the country, that is akin to running on the same ticket of "competence" that destroyed Michael Dukakis.

Mr Bush's senior economic advisers, John Sununu and Richard Darman, are widely discredited both for using crude threats and blackmail and (worse)

for failing to win by such means. The Republican party is now as divided over tax policy two years into the Bush presidency as the Democrats were at the same time in the Reagan years.

Most Republican candidates with a chance of winning a Democrat seat in the Senate are fighting against the White House policy of conceding tax increases to cut the budget deficit. Even leaders of the Republican national committee are issuing shrill condemnations of the president's policy, partly to protect themselves from blame if the result on November 6 is as bad for the party as they fear.

Mr Bush won election in 1988 with the lowest level of support in the House of Representatives of any president in the nation's history. Mid-term elections are traditionally more lightly led from the centre than those of the years when the presidency is being decided, and usually the president's party fares badly. But this year, when 435 seats in the House of Representatives, 35 in the Senate and 36 governorships are at stake, central direction is weaker

than it has been for a decade. The message from the White House: "Save your seat."

In recent months office-holders were worried that an even greater and more impersonal force than that of George Bush was upon them. They sense a nationwide movement of "anti-incumbency" that has appeared like a storm on political radar screens, sometimes seeming to gather, sometimes to disperse. No one knows what phase it will be in on November 6 or the power of its impact.

Even in faraway Oregon, one of the least known and most durable pieces of Capitol Hill furniture, Senator Mark Hatfield, is under unprecedented pressure. The second-ranking Republican in the upper house of Congress, with 32 years in public service, did little campaigning until August. He held a 36-point lead in the polls over his parvenu opponent, local businessman and scientist Harry Lonsdale, who stood because no other Democrat would.

At the beginning of this year Mr Hatfield seemed, indeed, like a man whose time was still coming. A rare Republican pacifist, he had survived the arms build-ups of the cold war and could now claim the peace dividend. A campaigner against abortion, he seemed set to ride that tide too.

But conditions have changed. Today he is hard-pressed by Mr Lonsdale, who has spent heavily from his own pocket to present the incumbent on television as out-of-touch, anti-environment, anti-women and under the thumb of big business groups. The contest is now too close to call.

In the most important race of the year, for the governorship of California, Republican Pete Wilson has used the president for what he is best for: raising millions of dollars to spend on television advertising. Mr Wilson has also tried to seize the anti-incumbency vote by endorsing a measure to limit the tenure of state office-holders, a measure that seems certain to pass. The president too has backed the idea of term-limitation. But for career politicians like Pete Wilson and George Bush it is a hard message to take to a wary public.

No wonder that the president fancies Cincinnati.

The media shall inherit...

Marketing men are licking their lips at the prospect of Dr George Carey seeking professional advice on how to put the church's message across when he becomes Archbishop of Canterbury next year. He is understood to be sympathetic to the idea, which has taken on new significance with the Broadcasting Bill about to allow religious advertising for the first time.

Mike Fox, of the Cogent advertising agency, says: "Dr Carey wrote an article in August saying the present form of worship is not very 'user-friendly' and that he would like to make it more so. That's where we come in. For a modest outlay, the church could make a tremendous impact."

Fox has already put forward proposals for a regional test campaign in East Anglia on vicar recruitment, and other agencies are sizing up the market. Peter Kirvan, managing director of HDM Horner Collis and Kirvan, says: "Carey is reforming and radical, and we think it's more than possible he will contemplate advertising. The church has a much better product than its publicity would suggest." Kirvan has sent Carey a copy of a mock campaign which the agency has devised highlighting the fate of Terry Waite. "He can't make it to church this Sunday. What's your excuse?" it asks.

Not everyone is convinced. Bill Westwood, Bishop of Peterborough and formerly chairman of the Church of England's communications committee, says:

"It is one thing to advertise Mars bars and check how many you have sold, but how would you measure religious advertising?"

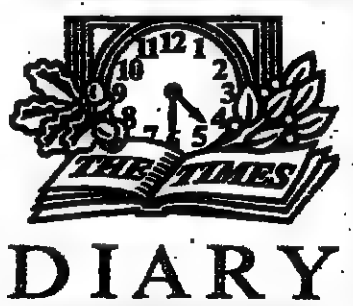
Westwood is also concerned that Christians with a distaste of the ephemeral and grasping world of advertising would resent the association. "He that toucheth pitch shall be defiled therewith," he says, quoting Ecclesiastes.

Leaning lion

When the Queen and President Cossiga of Italy unveil "The Lion of Venice" exhibition at the British Museum today, visitors familiar with the winged lion's usual position in the Piazzetta may be surprised if they look closely at the front paws. For



centuries the lion sat overlooking the Venice lagoon with the paws resting on an open volume symbolising the Book of Revelation. "We have had to display the lion without his book," says Andrew Hamilton of the British Museum. "It has nothing to do with us. The Italians took him down from his column five years ago and left the book up there." Naturally, minus the elevation created by the book, the lion sits at



a different angle and, with his eyes cast shifty earthwards, loses much of his grandeur. "We have compensated with blocks under one front paw and one back paw to balance him," says Hamilton. But perhaps the missing biblical book is just as well. Says John Julius Norwich: "He is an old, oriental, deeply pagan lion who must have been extremely surprised — and probably not pleased — to find himself suddenly metamorphosed into the emblem of a Christian evangelist."

Hang on, there

Although he intends to stand down at the next election, Nigel Lawson hopes Mrs Thatcher will call it later rather than sooner. Nothing to do with wanting to hang on to the trappings of Parliament for a few more months, simply that he has not yet started work on the memoirs he has promised his publishers after the election. Practised journalist though he is, Lawson admits: "I simply could not deliver a completed manuscript if the election were held next summer." In the book, for which Bantam is said to be

paying £250,000, Lawson is expected to spill some beans about his row with the prime minister over Sir Alan Walters. So far, however, he has yet to send for his Treasury and Downing Street files. "I am still an MP, have three directorships, and I am supposed to be writing the book," he says — although he adds that it is still an easier life than being chancellor. But none of Lawson's well-honed political skills have deserted him: "I know I said the memoirs would be published after the general election. I didn't say exactly how long after."

● The death of MP Norman Buchan yesterday deprives Labour of, among other things, its foremost expert on folk music. His wife, the Euro MP Janey Buchan, kept her spirits up during his illness by telling of what turned out to be his last ambulance journey some weeks ago. The ambulance man recognised Buchan but was told by Janey that he did not want any publicity. Offended, he asked: "Do you think I would talk to anyone about who I have in the back of this ambulance? Why only last week I had the footballer Ally McCoig and I haven't told a soul." It was the sort of Glaswegian humour Buchan would have appreciated.

No, prime minister

When Jim Callaghan took over as prime minister in 1976 he pleaded with his predecessor, Harold Wilson, to stay in the government as foreign secretary, Lady Falkender, Wilson's former private secretary, will claim on BBC Radio 3 tonight. Those close to the government at the time, however, are sceptical

about the claim, which will be made in Anthony Howard's *The Wilson Years*, and the man best placed to know isn't telling. "I was asked about it by Anthony Howard, but I cannot recall the diplomatic response I gave," says Lord Callaghan.

The programme will also reveal how Wilson's Labour ministers learnt of Wilson's resignation. Roy Hattersley had just arrived at Sofia airport when the British ambassador whispered: "The prime minister has resigned." Hattersley, shamefacedly confessed he had not read his Foreign Office brief and did not even know the prime minister's name. "Not theirs," said the ambassador. "Ours."

People's palace

Four months after President Vaclav Havel promised that he would do all he could to reinstate the British Council in the 17th-century palace in Prague from which the communists evicted it in 1949, he is still being frustrated by one of the last vestiges of Eastern-bloc bureaucracy, the League of Socialist Women, which refuses to budge. Havel revealed a sentimental attachment to the old British Council premises during Douglas Hurd's visit to Czechoslovakia earlier this year. "He and his friends remember visiting the Council, and his mother learnt English at a grammar school opposite," it was said to be splendid if we could return to the palace from our present overcrowded office. It is much more central and conveniently near the main concert hall. Mozart would approve.



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BOLSTERING ARAB RESOLVE

Only a few weeks ago, Douglas Hurd was touring Saudi Arabia and the Gulf, preaching patience to governments deeply angered by the invasion and depredation of Kuwait, sceptical of the efficacy of sanctions against Iraq and raring for combat. Now Saudi Arabia, departing from its hitherto hawkish stance, has added to the small forest of olive branches dangled before President Saddam Hussein. On Sunday remarks by the Saudi defence minister, Prince Sultan bin Abdul-Aziz, appeared to hint that, once Iraq withdrew from Kuwait, concessions might follow. There was, he said, no harm in an Arab state "giving its Arab sister land, a site, or a position on the sea".

Prince Sultan is the leading dove in the house of Saud. He has since claimed to have been misinterpreted and reaffirmed Saudi Arabia's categorical support for the United Nations (and Arab) resolutions demanding Iraq's unconditional withdrawal and the reinstatement of the Emir. His reference, he said, was to earlier peaceful settlements of Arab frontier disputes. The Saudi government has formally declared that its policy of no compromise is unchanged.

Neither these disclaimers, nor the categorical dismissal of any concessions by Kuwait's government-in-exile have dispelled the impression that the form of an eventual negotiated settlement is now slowly shaping. On Monday, King Fahd's appeal to Saddam, while it made no reference to rewarding Iraqi aggression, emphasised that Saddam would court "no disgrace" by recognising his blunder and retreating. Yesterday came the announcement that the six nations of the Gulf Cooperation Council will meet on Sunday.

There may be less to this than meets the eye. The phoney war is at its most delicate stage. The build-up of military force by the anti-Iraq coalition has now attained critical mass, and the desert heat is subsiding. For the first time since August 2, the military option is a serious alternative to waiting for sanctions "to work". Arab states which would be most affected by war must be expected to make a last-ditch attempt (as Western leaders have also done) to persuade Iraq to yield without bloodshed. There is nothing improper in avoiding the horror of war — provided the price of avoidance is not a more terrible war later.

Should Saddam emerge with some concrete gain from this imbroglio, there will be no security either in the Gulf or in the Arab world that Saddam aspires to dominate. Yet the Americans are, like the British and French, in Saudi Arabia as invited guests of the Saudi government. They cannot act unless the Arab members of the anti-Iraq coalition are at one with Washington in their determination to recover the whole of Kuwait.

Iraq can be defeated militarily. Western forces can legally justify an attack on Iraq's forces if Kuwait requests it and the Saudis

agree, even in the absence of an explicit mandate from the UN Security Council. But that minimum element of collectivity — in essence the full-hearted assent of most Arab states — is critical. Without it, military action by the Americans or other Western states is not an option, either politically or in terms of battlefield practicality. The West must not, by a neo-colonial heavy-handedness, turn Saddam into a martyr to the cause of a revived, virulently anti-western, Arab nationalism.

If Saudi Arabia were to broker an "Arab solution" acceptable to Egypt and the Emir of Kuwait — whether or not it was entirely to the West's liking — the West must acquiesce. If western forces are asked by the Arab League or the Gulf states to withdraw, then withdrawal they must, trying as they do to argue that a policeman's lot is never easy and if the locals wish to sort things out their way, so be it. This was the Arab consensus that Mr Bush and others struggled to put together. The West is there at the Arabs' invitation, or not at all.

However, for the West to leave with a job half done would confirm the hawks in their view that Saddam will merely strengthen his hold on the emotions of extreme Arab nationalism throughout the region. This in turn would merely postpone the day of reckoning. It would leave the Israelis even more exposed and scarcely reassure a returning Kuwaiti government that Saddam "didn't really mean it after all." If the Americans leave, Saddam, for one, would doubtless feel they are not likely ever to return.

Yesterday in the Commons, Mrs Thatcher insisted on the need for so decisive a defeat for Iraq, including depriving it of chemical and nuclear weapons capacity, that "this matter does not ever arise again." If the West wishes to reinforce the vital Arab links in the anti-Saddam chain, it must now be careful what it says. It was President Mitterrand's disastrous suggestion that a mere Iraqi promise to withdraw would make "everything negotiable" that gave Saddam his first hope of splitting the alliance. Saudi Arabia has not gone so far — yet.

Saddam has been given every opportunity, by western supplicants from Kurt Waldheim to Edward Heath, to play cat and mouse with western hostages, western emotions and western anti-war sentiment. Willy Brandt is now thinking of treading the same route. These men must know what a dangerous game they play. They lend strength to Arab suspicions that the West is losing its nerve in the Gulf, leaving them with no alternative but to engage in constant talk of compromise.

At present, there is only one deal on the table, and it is a good one: Saddam's unconditional withdrawal from the whole of Kuwait. The West is entitled to ask its Arab allies that it remain the only one, even while recognising that this is their region and, ultimately, their dispute.

FAVOUR THE UNDER-FIVES

As universal state benefits go, those to children are easy to defend. Poverty is at its worst in large families. Child benefit helps those most in need. Paid direct to mothers, the benefit gives the family member who takes most responsibility for children some money of her own.

Because this benefit is paid to every family with children, rich and poor, it attracts the support of a broad political constituency that might not feel so warmly towards a means-tested benefit. Because the benefit is flat rate and untaxed, it does not deepen the poverty trap, or distort incentives to work. Child benefit gives expression to the general feeling that children are a good thing, and that those who have them deserve to have resources redistributed to them from those that do not.

Despite this, child benefit would scarcely be invented now if it did not exist already. Mrs Thatcher dislikes it because its universality wastes money on those who do not need it. She abhors the "churning" effect, whereby the same people can have money taxed away, then handed back in benefit. She is acutely aware of the cost: this year, child benefit and the one-parent addition to it will cost nearly £5 billion. A 1 per cent increase would cost the exchequer £33 million a year. With public spending under so much pressure, the language of priorities has become the religion of conservatism.

Yet Mrs Thatcher lives in the real world. Seven million families get the benefit, many of them middle-class Conservative supporters who see it as just return for their taxes. A powerful group within the Conservative party supports it, embracing not just wets, but traditional, family-oriented conservatives,

including (as Angela Rumbold demonstrated this week) right-wingers. Abolishing child benefit is not practical politics.

Not, so close to an election, is merely freezing it an attractive option. After three years in which it has been held at £7.25, Mrs Thatcher's intervention in the current dispute between the Treasury and the social services department has marked the cracking of the ice. The solution which her government seems ready to announce is a modification to the scheme. In future, a higher level of benefit will be paid to the first child in every family.

As the first child costs the family most, this proposal has a certain logic. But the question is whether it is the optimum method to help those in need. David Willetts, of the Centre for Policy Studies, has proposed that the benefit should be higher not for first children, but for children under five. Their mothers find it hardest to go out to work. Should these women choose to remain at home during these early years, they should be given greater help by the state with the costs of that decision.

The CPS would like to abolish child benefit for the over-fives to pay for the increase. A less radical version, with a supplement for younger children, would be more popular. Instead of across-the-board rises, any more cash for families could be spent on a supplement payable to mothers with young children, modelled on one-parent family benefit.

The details of such a scheme need to be worked out. But the concept, at least, should appeal to the prime minister, if not this year, then for the Conservative manifesto.

DEGREASING WESTMINSTER'S POLE

On the grounds that "there is more to life than politics", Nigel Lawson is to leave the House of Commons at the next general election. Having enjoyed the responsibility of being Chancellor of the Exchequer for six years, the life of a non-executive backbencher clearly has little appeal.

Nobody should criticise him on that account. His threshold of boredom was always low and parliament would gain little of value from a backbencher whose heart was not at Westminster and who had tired with a job with unsocial hours and much tedium. If, when his days as an MP are done, Mr Lawson does not reject a peerage, the Lords could provide him with a dignified outlet for occasional declarations of global wisdom.

Yet his decision is symptomatic of aspects of current politics which are regrettable. The professionalisation of politics is at the heart of the matter. Of course, ministerial ambition was always the motive of most MPs. Only a few claimed never to aspire to be more than a dedicated backbencher. Yet the non-attainment of office was not necessarily seen as failure and ministers and backbenchers lived less apart than they do today.

Even a couple of decades ago, ministers mixed socially not only with each other but also with former ministers and senior backbenchers. Their ears were more to the ground at Westminster and, for Tories at least, in their

clubs. Now they are too busy for much social politics, other than the less enjoyable kind experienced at weekend constituency events. Forced to consult officials and advisers on the detail of policy-making, ministers have little energy for wider reflection and discussion. Only comfortless opposition allows such time.

The professionalisation of politics and the skills acquired by ministers in the practice of financial, economic and industrial oversight offers an easy (and recently much criticised) bridge for a profitable change of career, usually in the mid-50s. The rewards are such that the role of elder statesman on the benches of the Commons is comparatively unattractive.

Parliament is the worse for this. Politics should be more than just a job for ambitious young men. It should embrace the corridors of Westminster as well as those of Whitehall and the constituency. Good government requires the informal interchange that parliament offers.

Yet parliament must be capable of reforming itself to permit this interchange to occur. The absurd working hours, aimed at workaholic ministers and lawyer backbenchers, hopeless for family women, continue to impose an intense strain on MPs. As long as the Commons cannot reform itself, it not only cuts a dim figure in lecturing the nation; it also risks losing some of its best performers.

Measures to reduce divorce rate

From Canon Raymond Wilkinson

Sir, The Lord Chancellor has alerted the nation again to the extremely serious situation facing us by reason of the ever-higher divorce rate — with its consequent deleterious effects upon children and its huge cost to the Exchequer because of increased social services (report, October 18).

It is perhaps ironic that the process towards easier divorce began by the Church's 1970 report, *Putting Asunder*, and subsequently involving an astronomical number of man-hours from lawyers involved in divorce suits, should be called to a halt by our leading legal representative. The so-called "conciliation" clause in present legislation, inviting solicitors to suggest reconciliation, is often observed in the breach. Now we are told that "what we want... is a process that does not allow divorce to be easy, but makes it more rigorous by encouraging people to face the consequences".

Yes, indeed, for if ever chickens came home to roost, it is in the naive acceptance by the leadership of the established Church at that time that the concept of "breakdown of marriage" would lead to greater justice and happiness all round. In fact, the floodgates were opened. There has been an enormous increase in premature and unnecessary abandonment of vows once considered to be binding and lifelong.

There is a great need for reassessment of the Church's role in marriage. Quite simply, the established Church — still officiating at over 50 per cent of marriages in this country — has a great responsibility in preparing couples more adequately. Where this is the case, the results may be dramatic. They certainly need to be so, in a society where we are heading for a third of all marriages breaking down.

Prior to my retirement three years ago, I conducted over 5,000 weddings — latterly as the rector of a large West Midlands parish, from 1971 to 1987. For much of that latter time, a considerable team of voluntary "experts" from a concerned body of laity were involved in befriending and guiding engaged couples in preparation for married life. The meetings (additional to clergy preparation) involved local solicitors, bank managers, social workers and marriage guidance counsellors —

ers, having to boost children's self-confidence, showing them care and compassion before being able to pick up a piece of chalk.

It is pastoral rather than teaching skills which teachers are called upon to use in more and more classrooms and it is training in these skills which so few teachers have received. It is thus not surprising that teachers become depressed and disillusioned, exhausted and exasperated.

Neither the national curriculum nor higher salaries are the answer to the crisis in education. The renewal of society and family life is.

Yours sincerely,
IAN KNOWLES (Chaplain),
Quinton Hall School,
8 Radnor Road,
Barnrow, Middlesbrough,
October 13.

Education malaise

From the Reverend J. J. Knowles

Sir, Having listened to much of the recent conference rhetoric on education it strikes me that no political party is prepared to accept that the current malaise in state education is not the fault primarily of teachers, the national curriculum, Government or unions but of the social situation.

Any educationist knows that for a child to be able to learn well it needs a stable, secure, loving environment. Given that perhaps half of Britain's children have spent some time in a single-parent family, with all that entails, it is no wonder that our education system is in crisis.

So many teachers are not free to teach because they are firstly unpaid, unrecognized social work-

Demise of reading?

From Professor John Radford

Sir, Mrs Perry (October 15) bemoans the influence of television, and says that the task of teachers is to teach children to become readers. Surely the task of teachers is to make children more effective and critical users of information from all sources of which television is one of the most important.

I am a book lover: I have acquired many hundreds and written a few. But the day of the printed book, which has been our staple source of information for 500 years, is now passing. Education must look forward, not back.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN RADFORD,
38 Cephas Avenue, E1,
October 16.

Air safety

From Captain Colin Seaman

Sir, Your correspondent, Mr Cohen (October 11), states that he has assessed the case of gaining access to life jackets stored beneath the seats of civilian aircraft and casts doubt on their accessibility from both the position under the seat and from the sealed container.

On British Airways aircraft the life jacket is in a pouch, two inches behind the front of the seat cushion. It is therefore readily accessible to all except the very young or the infirm. The life jacket itself is in a container which is

sealed by a plastic tape which is removed by the lightest of pulls. The purpose of the tape is to readily identify any life jackets which may have been tampered with in flight.

If the accessibility of safety equipment were as your correspondent described, the Civil Aviation Authority would not need to certify the aircraft and British Airways would not fly it.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN SEAMAN
(Head of safety),
British Airways,
PO Box 10,
Heathrow Airport (London),
Hounslow, Middlesex.

Spanish park threat

From Mr Tam Dalyell, MP for Linlithgow (Labour)

Sir, Your correspondent, Roger Voss (October 17), performs a real service to those concerned with European wildlife by setting out the perils to Coto Doñana.

At the end of September I was privileged to spend two days in what is perhaps the most important wetland staging-post for British migratory birds in southern Europe. Mr Voss does not exaggerate the threat from potential hotels, producing demands that lower the water-table.

I was deeply impressed by the dedicated and expert Spanish

wardens and administration on the spot. Seeing three Spanish imperial eagles, European lynxes and a host of other animals and birds in their natural habitat was remarkable.

British Government and opinion and the European Commission ought to do everything possible to support the many concerned Spaniards who wish to protect their Doñana for posterity.

Yours etc.,
TAM DALYELL,
House of Commons.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Britain's 'neutrality' on Palestine

From Mr D. J. McCarthy

Sir, The wisdom of the timing of Mr Hurd's Middle East visit may be debatable. The case for his trying to move matters is stronger than you suggest.

You write (leading article, October 18): "That Britain was once involved in the politics of the Levant confers... no continuing responsibility for resolving its conflicts". Would you have felt so confident of your conclusion if you had written a little more frankly: "That Britain started the whole ghastly mess by opening a tranche of the Levant to a third party confers... no continuing responsibility...?"

You also overlook the fact that the Charter of the UN imposes special peacekeeping responsibilities on permanent members of the Security Council. You may regret that we have that status. But so long as we have it, do you advocate neglecting the responsibilities it carries?

Coincidentally, you also publish (October 18) two letters on the key Resolution 242. The President of the Board of Deputies points out that George Brown confirmed that the obligation of withdrawal depended on a permanent settlement taking in 242's other requirements. Fair enough. The deal was always to be occupied territory for peace. It would be a great help if Mr Shamir declared that Israel would withdraw from occupied territories if the rest of the resolution were made effective. Will Mr Shamir do that?

Mr Fruhman, also noting the other requirements of 242, revives the somewhat weary semantic argument over "the" territories. It becomes necessary to repeat old facts. Lord Caradon, who after all was the negotiator in New York, consistently maintained that a deliberate factor in omitting the definite article in the English text was to preclude the reimposition of absurd minor anomalies created by the accidents of standstill positions in 1948/9.

The UN has five official, and equally authoritative, languages. I do not know about the Chinese text. Russian lacks definite articles. The French and Spanish texts both contain the definite article. The Caradon point remains the one that makes sense.

Yours truly,
D. J. MCCARTHY,
Church Farmhouse,
Sudbourne,
Woodbridge, Suffolk,
October 18.

Net book agreement

From Mr John Rivett

Sir, You stated (leading article, October 15) that the abolition of the net book agreement would close some shops; yes, but what you don't say is that a considerable number of these shops are out in the country areas, giving (in the main) an excellent service (with the NBA) to the local community, which would mean bookbuyers having to travel some distance to the nearest bookshop.

Without the NBA it is my firm belief that within a few years books would be more expensive and there would be fewer well stocked local bookshops.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN RIVETT,
The Book Shop,
20 High Street,
Princes Risborough,
Buckinghamshire,
October 16.

From Mr Samuel Carr
Sir, As you point out in your leader books nowadays are seldom published with the certainty of loss. Some projects are seen as

Insurance and weather

From Mr D. B. Morris

Sir, Mr Victor Rance (October 13) states that "with most of the experts seemingly agreed that the weather patterns are changing for the worse... it would be irresponsible of insurance companies not to consider whether their premium levels are adequate".

It would be even more irresponsible to take decisions before the facts are known. The majority of experts are only agreed that some global warming will probably take place over the next 20 to 50 years.

Their computer models are, at present, unable to forecast the weather patterns that will result over Europe let alone over a region in the UK for more than a week ahead.

I am hoping that southern England will become like southern France and expect my insurance premiums to reflect the fact — when it happens.

Yours sincerely,
D. B. MORRIS,
21 Haddon Court,
Shakespeare Road,
Harpden, Hertfordshire,
October 15.

From Mr Richard Lund

Sir, Having visited the Coto Doñana earlier this year I would warmly support Mr Voss's letter and the RSPB efforts to preserve this area.

The beautiful wild camels which inhabit the parkland would also presumably vanish in the face of the developers. The question as to whether these are descendants of those abandoned by the Moors or escaped from David Lean's set for *Lawrence of Arabia* remains an enigma.

Yours sincerely,
RICHARD LUND,
5 Spencer Park, SW18,
October 17.

From Professor Musa Mazzawi

Sir, The statement made by the Foreign Secretary (report, October 18) after the Palestinians' delegation announced their refusal to meet him serves only to confirm the justification for their decision. There may be argument about what he said or meant by what he said at a private meeting with members of the Israeli Knesset, but what he subsequently did say was: "We do not argue for a separate Palestinian state. Equally we do not oppose it if this were the result agreed by the parties".

But everybody knows — because the Israeli government has seized every opportunity to emphasize the point — that Israel is irrevocably opposed to the idea of a separate Palestinian state. So if for Britain such a state can come about only as a result of negotiations with the Israelis then clearly the Israelis are being allowed a veto on the whole idea.

Quite why the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination — which Britain claims to support in principle — should not mean what it has meant in every other case in modern history, namely an independent and sovereign state of their own, is something which Palestinians like myself cannot comprehend. Equally difficult to accept is why the fulfilment of the aspirations of the Palestinians should be dependent on the tender mercies of their oppressors.

There are scores of resolutions of the United Nations, going back to 1947, which recognize the absolute and unconditional rights of the Palestinians. These were not expressly or by implication made dependent on the consent of Israel. One wonders whether her Majesty's Government would accept that the recent Security Council resolution on the sending of a mission to investigate the Jerusalem incidents should similarly be shelved because of Israel's rejection of it.

Perhaps the most unpalatable thing for the Palestinian people in all this is that Britain which started the misfortunes of the Palestinian people by giving the Zionist movement the Balfour Declaration, should profess impartiality and abandon forthrightness at this stage of the conflict.

Who was it who said that "the hottest place in hell is reserved for those who in time of moral crisis say they are neutral"?
Yours faithfully,
MUSA MAZZAWI,
2 Paper Buildings, Temple, EC4.

marginally more profitable than others. The more likely a book is to lose its investment, the less probable will be its chances of publication.

It is most often the works of literary originality or academic scholarship which are regarded as being on the wrong side of the margin.

Yours etc.,
SAMUEL CARR,
46 Paulsons Square, SW 3,
October 15.

Turning a phrase

From Mr C. F. L. Jones

Sir, What I wonder, would be the equivalent in French, Italian, or any other civilised language, to the salutation at the beginning of a letter I have recently received in reply to an inquiry about buying electricity shares? The letter began: "Dear London Electricity Referrer".

Yours faithfully,
C. F. L. JONES,
26 Cranford Close,
Cotnam Park Road,
Wimbledon, SW 20

Countryside access

From the Deputy Director of the Ramblers' Association

Sir, If the campaign for access to the countryside had been won over 50 years ago, as Mr Osborne suggests (October 15), we should today have public access over all 18 of the grouse moors in the Peak District. Britain's most visited national park.

Instead we have, on some of those moors, "private" signs, including those recently erected by the national park authority on land owned by the recently privatised Yorkshire Water, intended to keep the public off on every day of the year. Elsewhere a small group of landowners seek to frustrate widely-agreed proposals for a legal right of access to common land.

Members of the public who take delight in wandering freely over open, uncultivated countryside will not consider the Ramblers' Association's campaign to be misguided.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN TREVELYAN,
Deputy Director,
The Ramblers' Association,
1/5 Wandsworth Road, SW8.

Age concern

From Mr Hew Watt

Sir, The following government ministers are quoted in reports in today's *Times* (October 18): Douglas Hurd (p1) John MacGregor (p1) Michael Howard (p2) Lord Mackay (p4). Tom King (p7). Malcolm Rifkind (p9). John Gummer (p13). John Major (p26). Only Lady Blatch (p1) has her age quoted. Should not it be all or nothing?

Yours faithfully,
HEW WATT (aged 75),
Wingfield Cottage,
Prince Charles Avenue,
Orsett, Grays, Essex.

CREATIVE, MEDIA & MARKETING APPOINTMENTS



BBC Training Schemes 1991

The BBC wants to attract the brightest and most creative people to its training schemes for 1991. Each scheme is for a different part of the BBC but applicants may apply for more than one scheme. Applicants should be able to demonstrate an informed interest and enthusiasm for the area for which they are applying and should have a broad educational background usually to degree or equivalent standard and/or journalistic ability. Competition is fierce so applicants have to be good.

Television Production Trainees

BBC Television is looking for people with sharp, original minds, an excellent degree and/or clear journalistic ability and experience, combined with a broad range of informed interests, creative flair and fresh ideas to work mainly in the factual programme areas. Traditional academic background and success are less important than an awareness of the world and of the varieties of communities, tastes and beliefs within Britain. We expect many of them will become future producers of programmes such as *40 Minutes*, *Watchdog*, *Tomorrow's World*, *Newsnight*, *The Late Show*, *Heart of the Matter*, *Blue Peter*, *Grandstand*, *Def 11*, *Short Circuit* and *Advice Shop*. There are also a limited number of opportunities to progress to Drama and Light Entertainment.

We are offering about 10 people a two year training programme starting in September 1991, consisting of four weeks' formal instruction leading to working experience on a number of programmes for the rest of the time. Trainees will have to generate programme ideas and have the visual and creative skills to argue their merits within a production team. They need to be able to demonstrate a willingness and effective practical ability to discover the information, people and locations which are the essential ingredients of any programme.

Payment will be in the region of £13,000 p.a. in the first year

(Ref. 2603/1P)

Network Radio Production Trainees

This could be the scheme for you:

- if you're an enthusiastic listener to BBC network radio's speech programmes - and think you can do better;
- if you think radio's the best medium with the biggest potential;
- if you have plenty of ideas for programmes and you want to inject a bit of danger into Radio 4 (and even Radio 3!).

After formal training and up to two years of working attachments you'll be eminently well qualified to become a fully fledged producer of programmes like *Start the Week*, *Third Ear*, *Science Now*, *Kalidoscope*, *Face the Facts*, *Loose Ends* or *Woman's Hour*. You'll need to be energetic and innovative, and be able to communicate easily verbally and in writing. You'll need to be fascinated by people and the world about you - much more important than holding a university degree.

Applications from those with disabilities, or from black or Asian people are particularly welcome, as they are under-represented in network radio production.

The initial salary will be £12,300, plus an allowance of £770, and is reviewed at the end of the first year.

The information is also available on a short cassette for visually handicapped candidates.

(Ref. 2604/1P)

World Service Production Trainees

The World Service broadcasts in 38 languages including the World Service in English. News and Current Affairs are the heart of the operation but we also produce features, drama, sport, music and other specialist programmes. If you want to work in an exciting international environment, we're looking for people with political awareness and sensitivity overseas work experience and specialist knowledge of another part of the world, an informed interest in international affairs, writing ability and the capacity to generate ideas and turn them into effective programmes for international audiences. It is important that candidates should have listened to our output and be prepared to discuss both it and news features of the day.

The initial salary will be £12,300, plus an allowance of £770, and is reviewed at the end of the first year.

Details of each scheme, including length (usually 2 years) will be provided upon application. For application form write (quote appropriate ref.) to BBC Corporate Recruitment Services, London W1A 1AA or telephone 071-927 5799.

Requests for application forms must be received before Monday 18th November 1990. Application forms to be returned by 30th November 1990.

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

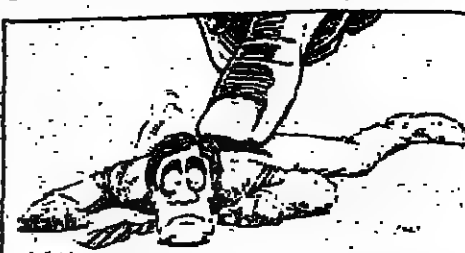
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We are one of the UK's largest publishing groups and a leader in the field of Business, Financial and Technology magazines.

Our successful expansion programme has created new opportunities for advertising sales executives.

Clear thinking, tenacious and well spoken people can expect to achieve earnings of £50,000+ pa.

If you have the confidence and communication skills to deal with international clients by telephone then please call Philip Armstrong on 071-240-1515.



So where has talent, ambition and hard work got you so far?

Alfred Dunbar - The Financial Planning Group - are expanding in these areas and are looking for intelligent and professionally minded people between 25 and 35 to market their range of financial services.

If you have ever wondered whether a career in sales or marketing would suit you, this is your opportunity to find out. We would like to invite you to attend a meeting to be held shortly, which would discuss and explain the opportunities available within the group and also - most importantly - offer a COMPREHENSIVE ALTERNATIVE CAREER EVALUATION exercise. We have for many years provided ourselves in our ability to select talent from outside the financial services industry and to develop very successful Financial Planning Consultants from those who have had no experience of marketing in the past.

Please write with brief C.V. to: L. Dwyer, Alfred Dunbar House, South Essex Office Campus, Elmore Way, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SSO 1 1JA or telephone South - John Dwyer 0774 729711. South/Suffolk - Marion (Luton) 081 666 0991. Thames Valley/Oxfordshire - Paul Spear 0754 584627. West Yorkshire - Barbara Hamilton 0535 36660.

North London/Westfordshire - Laurel Stoddart 081 505 1000.

Other locations: 0800 000 0000. An Equal Opportunities Employer.



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Salary circa £16,000 negotiable.

Telephone (071) 722 9272.

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Has an excellent opportunity for an innovative professional with a university degree, at least three years' business experience and a marketing orientation.

A prestigious Management Consultancy are looking for an articulate communicator to join their Direct Marketing Team in London. The candidate selected can play a significant role in our expansion to the continent in the process of arranging presentations with executive decision makers. If you are to be successful in this position, your knowledge of current business affairs and structures and the ability to communicate comfortably on the telephone to business leaders will be critical.

There will be opportunities to develop experience and expertise in many other areas of direct marketing with excellent prospects for career development in a challenging environment. You will be a team player in a strong culture which consists of individuals aligned in their mission and totally dedicated to continuing excellence.

This is an immediate opportunity, so if you have the ability and the desire to be successful in this role, please forward your C.V. to PO Box No. 1696.

ActionAid

We are Britain's fourth largest development charity

We are the 20th largest UK charity

Have you heard of us? Few have!

We need a HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS

Based in our North London office, reporting to the Director of Fundraising, this challenging new position offers the opportunity to enhance, manage and expand the public image of ActionAid. The development of a strong corporate identity is crucial to the successful implementation of a planned major growth in fundraising. You will play a key role in the overall development of an internal and external communications strategy, and direct the existing team of six in the management of ActionAid's production and audio visual resources and media requirements.

We are seeking at least five years senior experience in the communications sector together with experience of working with, or within a development agency. First class communication skills together with the ability to motivate and manage creative people are essential.

Salary package £22,000 - other benefits include contributory pension scheme and life assurance.

Please send full CV to The Personnel Department, ActionAid, Tapscott Road, Chert, Somerset TA20 2AB, by Friday, 9 November.

ActionAid - a charity working with children, families and communities to improve the quality of life in some of the poorest parts of the world.

ActionAid aims to be an equal opportunities employer.

Mirabella

Fashion Sales Co-Ordinator

Mirabella, the exciting new fashion magazine is looking to expand its sales teams and create a position for someone who has 2 - 3 years' experience in selling direct to fashion clients at all levels. A cheery and tenacious personality, large portfolio of client contacts and the desire to be involved in this exciting launch are prerequisites of suitability for this post.

Salary negotiable. company car, BUPA, pension scheme, 25 days holiday.

If you are interested, please contact quoting ref. T/MIRA:

Sally Coker
Personnel Director
Murdoch Magazines
8 - 10 Haymarket
London SW1Y 4BP
071 839 8272

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needs a

SENIOR INVIGILATOR

for its small in-gallery information/security team. The vacancy will suit a mature communicator who will be responsible for helping visitors, covering security, liaising with other museum staff, presentation standards and co-ordinating the team. Regular weekend working is essential.

Salary £10,000 p.a.

CVs to Barry Mason, Design Museum, Botolph Claydon, Norfolk IP19 1D by 15th October 1990.

Phone 071-403 6933 for more information.

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Send CV to CRISC, 211 Piccadilly, London W1V 9LD

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We are entering an exciting new phase in the theatre's development and now need the services of a

COMMERCIAL MANAGER

to complete the management team.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate a track record of successful fund-raising, not necessarily in Theatre (though it is important to have an understanding for the problems facing arts organisations) and a sympathy for our aims and objectives.

Ideally, experience in marketing planning is also required.

Salary is open to negotiation but is expected to be in the region of £12k - £14k plus a percentage of funds raised.

It is anticipated that interviews will take place during the last week of October.

For further details please send S.A.E. to The Administrator, Theatre Royal and Opera House, Drury Lane, Wokingham, West Yorkshire W11 2TE.

TWO TRAINEE ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

required for busy tourist marketing company in SW11 (nearest station Chiswick Junction) (males), aged 22+. £9,500-£11,000. Genuine career opportunity - must be able to work as part of a team and handle oral correspondence. Secretarial background preferred (short-hand a must for one position). If you respond well to a challenge, send cv to: Jacqui Williams, Dyslexia Marketing Ltd, Reference T177, 2 Clarendon Way, Pinner, West York, W11 2TE, London, SW11 3TW. No agencies need apply.

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THE BURLINGTON MAGAZINE

would be happy to hear from you. We are the leading art magazine worldwide. The post would best suit a graduate: not necessarily with a degree in History of Art, although some knowledge would be helpful. Experience in selling and drive are the deciding factors. Salary according to experience. C.V. to The Burlington Magazine, 6 Bloomsbury Square London WC1A 2LP. Tel: 071 430 0461.

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Substantial income and capital gain for those considering a career move within or into the financial world. For detailed information contact: PETER COLLEY on 071-836 2346 (Centre Point Office) M.L. Group

Appeal Director

Hammersmith Hospital, London: £25,000

The Hammersmith Cancer Appeal has been set up by The Royal Free Hospital, Hammersmith High Street, London W6 8GF. The Appeal is a registered charity.

The Appeal Director will be responsible for the general management of the Appeal, including fundraising, public relations, press relations and administration, and will report directly to the Trustees.

Candidates, with at least two years experience in fund-raising should be prepared to take full responsibility for the running of the Appeal and should show the commitment, drive and confidence required in being the person to a successful conclusion.

The Appeal Director will be based at the Hammersmith Hospital, Hammersmith High Street, London W6 8GF. The Appeal is a registered charity.

For further information and application form contact: Henry Stokes, Hammersmith Hospital, Hammersmith High Street, London W6 8GF. Tel: 071-836 2346 (ext. 1770).

Salary: £25,000 p.a. (plus pension).

Interview date: 15 November 1990.

Final interview date: 15 November 1990.

The Commonwealth Institute is an equal opportunities employer.

Commonwealth Institute

Publicity / Press Officer

The Commonwealth Institute is seeking an officer who will be responsible for publicity and press relations, and will be responsible for the Institute's public relations and press relations.

Next year the Institute will begin a phase of major redevelopment in close co-operation with a developer on its unique site in Kensington High Street. The challenge is to ensure that the new building will retain the facilities and resources necessary to project the reputation of the Institute as a centre for the contemporary community.

Working in the field of publicity and public relations, and closely with the education staff, the successful candidate will be responsible for publicity and press relations, and will be responsible for the Institute's public relations and press relations.

Candidates should have at least 3 years experience in the field, have initiative, imagination and a marketing approach combined with first class communication and presentation skills.

Salary is the range of £11,000 to £14,000 + performance related pay and bonus scheme, non-contributory pension scheme, recreation package.

For further information and application form contact: Henry Stokes, Commonwealth Institute, 100 Whitehall, London WC2N 2EE. Tel: 071-836 2346 (ext. 1770).

Salary: £25,000 p.a. (plus pension).

Interview date: 15 November 1990.

Final interview date: 15 November 1990.

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Seeking an aggressive self-starter to establish a national sales territory for U.S.A. Voice Mail Company, a P.C. based voice mail system.

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MEDIA

Soviet war of words

DISCUSSIONS on the dramatic political changes in eastern Europe overtook a conference that was meant to discuss how journalists should report the newly shaped continent. Journalists from 29 countries attended the conference Reporting Europe, 1992 and Beyond, held in Cardiff at the weekend, but proceedings were dominated by fierce disagreements between the Soviet delegates.

Vasil Bazov, the editor of *Free Ukraine*, a new broadsheet which is eating into the sales of the Communist party's *Pravda* in the Ukraine, spoke with pride about being from a sovereign state and told how he had bribed his way with food to get his paper printed.

Professor Lilia Shevtsova, of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, delivered a general indictment of her country's political situation. But *Pravda*'s chief political columnist, Thomas Kolesnichenko, dismissed her as a member of the opposition, like Neil Kinnock and "less pretty than Mrs Thatcher". The Soviet Union might be poor, he said, but it was progressing.

Bringing matters back to the subject in hand, John Lloyd, of the *Financial Times*, said the new societies in eastern Europe had opened up enormous scope for the media. Where comment had been controlled, the literary approach had been revived and that was now accompanied by a modern, western drive to sharper analysis. He said journalists should no longer think in terms of the eastern bloc, but of separate countries, each with its idiosyncratic revolution.

Michel Zantovsky, President Vaclav Havel's press secretary, won wide support from the conference when he called on the western media to employ more local talent in their reporting of the East. He added that a year ago the communist president of Czechoslovakia could have predicted the weather and still have made the front page of Prague newspapers. Today the president had to work hard to make the inside pages.

On reporting the European Community, Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, the former president of the European Commission, said journalists should not see the single European market purely in terms of trade. "When eastern European countries look to the EC as a beacon of hope, they look to more than lorries crossing Europe freely."

NICHOLAS WATT

Fear of a television ban on alcohol ads is prompting a change of emphasis, Geraldine Bedell reports

Grasping for a new image



Scoring on low alcohol: still from the Carlton LA commercial, with images of soldiers and footballers

The threat of a European ban on alcohol advertising has forced the industry to change its approach. The Council of Europe quashed an attempt to ban television advertising of alcohol, to bring drink into line with cigarettes, and this week the French upper house unexpectedly threw out a proposal to ban all drink advertising.

However, the anti-drink lobby remains strong, and in Britain its efforts are being met by a different-looking advertising in this year's high-spending pre-Christmas period.

Even those campaigning against alcohol abuse now accept that advertising plays a minimal role in encouraging people to start drinking. Tony Humphris, the public affairs director of Alcohol Concern, says: "We're not saying alcohol advertising should be banned, or even that it is the main determinant of how much is consumed. Price is far more important."

But this is small consolation for advertisers, increasingly sensitive to the vociferous health lobby, they are trying strenuously to demonstrate a responsible approach, to rebuff any proposals for statutory control.

When the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) toughened its code on alcohol advertising on television in late 1988, forbidding the use of personalities likely to appeal to people aged under 18, or associations with social or sexual success, several campaigns were withdrawn. These included Jonathan Ross's work for Harp, the Hagar the Horrible campaign for Skol, and George, the Hofmeister bear. Courage, the maker of Hofmeister, recently tried to bring back George in a new commercial which portrayed him as humorously clumsy. (In the past, advertisers have claimed that where humor is involved, the code should not be interpreted with puritanical literal-mindedness.) But the IBA companies this week refused to support the advertisement, and Courage backed down.

In the past, advertisers have sometimes attempted to abide by the letter of the code, but not necessarily its spirit. Laura Pennington, alcohol co-ordinator for the North West Regional Health Authority, has researched consumer responses to drink advertisements, and believes that although certain elements of the IBA code have been adhered to, "there has been artistic licence in interpretation of the areas of the

code relating to young people, social success and masculinity. I'm not in favour of banning alcohol advertising, but there are strict guidelines, and I believe some advertisers have contravened them, especially by arguing that humour undermines the point being made."

However, there are signs of a new sensitivity, especially in larger advertisements. Bartle Bogle Hegarty's commercial for Murphy's Irish stout, currently in some television regions and about to go national, features two New York policemen, one Irish and mature, the other black and young. According to Charlie Hiscocks, a BBH account director, they represent "a new kind of

masculinity. They are not macho-men; they are deeper characters - weary and worldly wise."

Mr Hiscocks believes there are two reasons for the change of emphasis: "People no longer want to see mean and moody men; they want to see men who have relationships."

In France, the move to impose a total advertising ban was triggered by a sexually suggestive ad for Kronenbourg lager. British agencies and television contractors are aware that any similar transgression here could imperil more than £200 million of advertising.

The same impulses which last year led the big brewers to set up the Portman Group, which campaigns for responsible attitudes to alcohol, have nudged advertising away from what Mr Hiscocks calls the "flash young drinker". Foster's commercials, which used to feature Paul Hogan, now show Burt Lancaster as a sophisticated American businessman picking up a hitchhiker, learning from him, then passing

'People no longer want to see mean and moody men; they want to see men who have relationships'

the message on to his workaholic assistant. David Jones, a spokesman for Courage, says: "The new campaign has characters who would not have been seen in beer advertising a few years ago."

Brewers are also supporting low and no-alcohol products with an estimated £10 million advertising budget, although they represent only 1 per cent or 2 per cent of the market. Many of these ads appropriate the glamorous imagery once associated with alcohol. Mark Luce, the marketing director for Courage brands, says: "Initially these drinks were seen as defensive purchases, something you drank because there was no alternative. More recently there has been an attempt to sell them positively, as something you drink to stay in control."

In Bartle Bogle Hegarty's commercial for White Label, a young woman picks up a young man at a dance, in Edwards Martin Thornton's advertisement for Tennent's low-alcohol beer, a young man aims with complete accuracy at a fairground rifle range; and in BMP DDB Needham's campaign for Carlton LA, shots of a writer are cross-cut with images of soldiers and footballers. With their suggestion of masculinity and sexual and social success, none of these advertisements would be allowed if the products were alcoholic.

Consumption of low-alcohol beers, however, has plateaued; if they continue to be advertised (and Courage is spending £2 million on the Carlton LA campaign), it is because brewers are anxious to reinforce the impression that they are responsible.

The alcohol advertising debate has moved on now to whether there should be some counter-vailing message," Mr Humphris says, "such as units of alcohol or a health warning on the product, or a levy on advertising to pay for health education."

The drinks industry would resist this, believing the current controls are working. Peter Mitchell, the strategic affairs director of Guinness, says: "The industry in this country is one of the best regulated in Europe. Other countries are recognising that - The Netherlands has just brought in a code very similar to ours."

Whatever the reason - changing values, a growing sense of responsibility, or the fear of provoking an all-out ban on advertising - this Christmas we shall be seeing a lot more of the lager-drinker with relationships.

MEDIA WATCH

What's in a name?

TABLET editors fear the well-established tradition of journalists posing as the staff of rival papers may confuse the workings of a new hotline. This has been set up in order to allow those who feel their privacy has been unduly infringed by the press to lodge a complaint with the Press Complaints Commission before an article or photograph has been published. Privately, the editors suspect that the hotline will increase the incentive for journalistic skulduggery.

Square bashing

MORE than 80,000 council households in Scotland discovered how to watch, free of charge, two of the five British Satellite Broadcasting (BSB) channels, after two Scottish schoolboys found the BSB sports and Galaxy entertainment channels on their set one afternoon and sold their story to the *Daily Record*. BSB admitted all homes in the UK connected to the old MATV (master antenna) system, installed by councils in the Sixties, can pick up the two channels free of charge, but insisted it is part of a promotional drive to persuade viewers to buy the whole package.

Listener aid

THE future of *The Listener* will not be decided until early next year, when ITV withdraws its funding. The 61-year-old broadcasting magazine, whose weekly circulation has fallen from 150,000 in the Fifties to about 18,000, is reportedly losing £750,000 a year. But Peter Fiddick, the editor, says the BBC has no plans to close the title at present.

Smaller screen

THE BBC is saving £1.6 million by shedding 80 jobs in the Midlands through voluntary redundancy and a near recruitment freeze over the next three years at its Pebble Mill television studios, as part of a cost-cutting plan to save the corporation £75 million annually by 1993. At least 2,000 more production jobs in BBC network television are at risk as a result of the government's requirement that 25 per cent of all programmes must be independently-made by 1993, broadcasting unions have forecast.

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The rage in the heart of the dove

The novelist Amos Oz is a respected voice of reason in Israel, yet he has become a deeply angry man who believes in the partition of his country. Richard Owen discovers why

Amos Oz, Israel's foremost novelist and best-known peace activist, is an angry man, a voice — literally and metaphorically — from Israel's wilderness.

A series of tragic and dramatic events in the Middle East — most recently, fervent Palestinian support for Saddam Hussein, the killing by police of 21 Arabs on Temple Mount in Jerusalem, and the stabbing of Israelis by Arabs seeking revenge — have caused dismay on the Israeli left, undermining its carefully constructed policy of dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation. The right-wing government of Yitzhak Shamir feels vindicated, telling left-wing intellectuals that the PLO is a terrorist organisation.

All of this, Mr Oz told me yesterday at his home in Arad, a town in the Negev desert above the Dead Sea, gives rise to "multitrack anger". Mr Oz, now aged 51, looks the mildest of men, a typical *kibbutznik* — which he was until recently. But there is no doubting his vehemence. "Most Israelis know exactly who they are angry with; they are angry with the bloody Arabs, or they are angry with the bloody government, or they are angry with the bloody outside world, our referees," he says. "In varying degrees I am angry with all of these at the same time."

The PLO leadership, Mr Oz says, had made "an incredibly stupid move" in endorsing Saddam Hussein, causing "serious damage" to the attempts of the Israeli left to further the cause of Middle East peace by "breaking the ice between Israelis and Palestinians. But I'm also angry with the government for being unimaginative, stupid and passive. It is even proud of its passivity. I am angry also with the Arab mob which stoned Jewish worshippers at the Wailing Wall, and angry with the Jewish police who acted recklessly in a way which was utterly unjustifiable." He repeats the phrase "utterly unjustifiable" several times, adding: "And I am angry with the way the international community responded to Temple Mount."

"Let me be blunt: I have never regarded the United Nations as a supreme court of justice. It is crystal clear to me that if the Arabs put down a draft resolution blaming Israel for the recent earthquake in Iran, it would probably have a majority, the United States would veto it, and Britain and France would abstain. I am cynical about the United Nations because the United Nations has treated Israel in a cynical way."

Mr Oz found fame in Israel and abroad as the author of deftly observed novels. His work in progress is entitled *The Third Condition*, which he says, deals with

the dilemmas of an Israeli intellectual in Jerusalem confronted with the realities of the intifada, or Palestinian uprising. He has never fought shy of politics, and continues to play a high profile role in the peace movement from Arad, a "development town" to which he moved after more than 30 years on a kibbutz so that his son, who had asthma, could benefit from the clean, dry desert air.

The day before meeting him, I discussed Mr Oz with a family in Jerusalem. The father found his non-literary activities "obnoxious" while his son, serving in the army, agreed with Mr Oz that Israel's occupation since 1967 of the West Bank and Gaza has been detrimental to occupier and occupied alike. Mr Oz seemed pleased by this proof of his theory that Israeli society has become increasingly polarised. In his last book, *The Slopes of Lebanon*, I reminded him, he had drawn a distinction between his political views in 1982, when he condemned the PLO for failing to acknowledge the existence of Israel, and his more recent stand, urging "the dovish left" to make peace with "a deadly enemy" which had abandoned, if only verbally, its demand for Israel's destruction. Did he still take this view? Mr Oz smiles.

"Just before Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait, I went abroad on a brief summer holiday. At the time I left I was regarded as a right-wing deviationist by other leftists because, although I was in favour of a Palestinian state, and of talking to the PLO, I had not endorsed these positions for the 'right' reasons. I felt the enemy was an ugly enemy, so I was not part of the left's enthusiastic endorsement of the new PLO. Three weeks later, I came back to discover that, without moving an inch, I had become a leftist deviationist, because some of my colleagues on the left had come screaming out of the bedroom complaining that the bride was not a virgin. I never thought the PLO was a virgin."

Did this mean that Mr Oz had moved closer to the position of the right-wing Likud government? "No. I still maintain that the PLO is both cruel and stupid. It is cruel to its own people, and cruel to us. It is politically stupid, in the tradition of Palestinian leadership over the past 60 to 70 years. It does not make me happy to say this. I wish we could have had a more sophisticated enemy, Israel on the right, by contrast, are glad to have a stupid enemy. I think the Palestinians deserve better."

Mr Oz, in other words, still holds that "in a clash between two national movements, you have to talk to whoever the enemy regards as its representative". But he now lays down two pre-conditions: that the PLO must make explicit its



Outspoken: Amos Oz says "I am for the building of a wall between Israelis and Palestinians"

implied recognition of Israel, and do so "loud and clear"; and that both sides should agree to a "ceasefire" for the period of talks.

Is he alarmed by the continuing move to the right in Israeli society? "You must understand that for years Israel has undergone a collective Salman Rushdie experience. In other words, we have been living under a death threat issued by Muslim religious leaders and Arab politicians, which has never been withdrawn. This would have been enough to drive even the sanest society insane, and we are not the sanest. We have been through persecution, oppression and isolation. What is surprising to me is not that so many Israelis have become hawkish, but that so many Israelis have managed to remain politically sober and realistic."

The other source of his optimism is his belief that both Israelis and Palestinians are beginning to come to terms with one another. Indeed, the present violence can be explained as a consequence of the realisation by both sides that they will have to live with each other — a kind of trauma as the truth dawns.

Mr Oz's hope is that the trauma will be succeeded by peace. "There has been a cognitive block. Palestinians assumed for decades that if they only rubbed their eyes enough, Zionism, Israel and the Jews would go away, like a nightmare. Israelis, meanwhile, saw the entire Palestinian phenomenon as some kind of artificial obstacle created by the Arab countries to cause trouble for Israel. Now both sides are waking up from an anaesthetic, and screaming, shouting and behaving violently. Yet if you held a referendum now between the Mediterranean and the Jordan, and asked every individual what will happen in the end, 70 to 80 per cent would say 'partition'. Partition, in fact, is already beginning, and Temple Mount may well have speeded it up. This may sound strange to someone from Europe, where the walls are

tumbling down. But I say this, loud and clear, I, a liberal progressive Israeli, am for the building of a wall between Israelis and Palestinians." Is this not a counsel of despair? "My grandfather used to say: 'If people cannot live and behave like decent human beings, let them live in separate cages. I have never set foot in Belfast, and I have heard people say the Irish problem stems from the tragedy of partition. But maybe it is the result of not enough partition. Maybe the answer would have been to partition streets from streets and houses from houses. Some on the left say if only we spoke to the Arabs more and had coffee together more often, we could befriend each other and then make peace. But history almost always works the other way: politicians sign a piece of paper with clenched teeth, sometimes hoping to tear it to shreds in the next generation. And yet the piece of paper holds water. This is what I would like to see happening now."

How fast can drivers learn?

Training buyers of high-performance cars in racetrack techniques does not automatically equip them for the road

The days when drivers of high-performance cars undergo special training as a matter of course could be just around the corner. For the moment, however, it is a corner slippery with controversy.

While leading manufacturers such as Vauxhall, Porsche, Jaguar and Audi are reporting a growing interest in customers in meeting the extra demands of handling a machine capable of well over twice the legal speed limit, police and road safety experts are not only questioning whether cars of such power have a place on the overcrowded British roads; they are also asking whether instructors without Department of Transport certification should be allowed to offer courses which consist largely of racetrack techniques.

Apart from the manufacturers themselves, these are thought to be some five or six private firms teaching the skills of high performance motoring. Nor all of these instruct their pupils on how to transfer these skills from the circuit to the street.

Of the manufacturers, only Caterham Cars, which makes the modern version of the Lotus 7, insists that purchasers go through a special training programme; however Vauxhall, whose 175mph Lotus Carlton is due on the roads at the end of November, will ask drivers refusing the course to sign a form saying that they have turned down the opportunity.

The majority of courses available consist of between half a day and two days' training, with the objective of first showing the new driver what the vehicle is capable of in an "off the road" context, and then transferring to an open road under the guidance of a member of the Institute of Advanced Motorists. One reason for the increasing popularity of such courses is the number and availability of high-performance vehicles: there are now 70 different models on sale which are capable of 140mph or more.

At £48,000, the Lotus

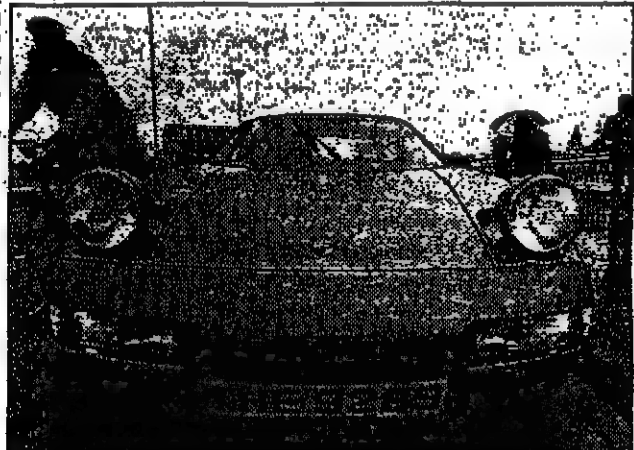
Carlton will sell only 440 vehicles in this country, and will be Britain's most powerful saloon. "The special courses will last for a minimum of one day," a senior Vauxhall spokesman says. "No one is being taught to drive faster, but rather to drive more safely. This particular model is able to go from zero mph to 60 and back to inertia in eight and a half seconds. Most cars could not even get to 50 in that time."

In the opinion of Dave Calderwood, the editor of *Performance Car* magazine, the trend towards special training courses is extremely welcome. "The essence of the best ones," he says, "is that they show you how to handle the car in such a way that it always remains stable. All the three courses which I have taken stress the importance of never getting into a situation when you have used up all your safety margins. There are so many cars about today which are potentially really fast, and they can all be dangerous when handled by people of insufficient experience."

John Lyon is a former police driving instructor who runs the highly respected training programme, HPC (High Performance Course). "What worries me greatly is that in order to handle a high-performance car safely, many drivers need not just a day or two but something nearer four or five. I am concerned that the criterion for drivers being given the course is simply that they have bought the car. The standard of roadcraft for police in the world, and I base my training on that. But there are cowboys about who are teaching their clients to drive like racing drivers. Inevitably some feel the temptation to put what they have learnt into practice on the roads. The 3am experiment on a quiet motorway is what we most dread. I think it is fair to describe that as not socially acceptable."

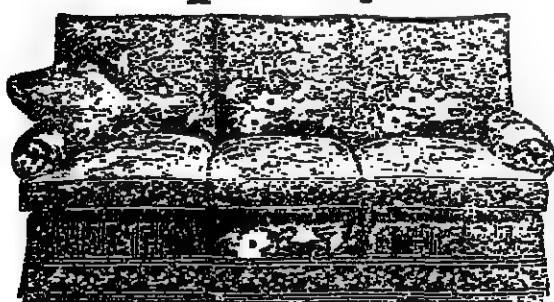
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Taking Mickey out of culture

Europe's first Disney store will open in Regent Street on Saturday. Is it a dream come true — or a nightmare?



Fantasy world: Donna Moore at the London store

United States. By Christmas there will be 78. Research into American buying patterns shows that each shopper leaves with an average of three purchases, and Britain's economic downturn is not expected to affect sales. "These are, on the whole, inexpensive purchases which make people feel good," Ms Moore says. "Even in a recession you still have to buy children's clothing. You still have to buy toys. And there is still a Christmas."

Is there an educational element in Disney toys? "We don't push that side of things. We emphasise the fun and entertainment side. Even with clothing, we sell apparel to make the wearer smile."

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The bridge builders

The school reunion could have been anywhere in Germany. Over-sixties, in their smartest suits, disgorged from the Mercedes of obliging relatives, divesting themselves of the years as they entered the sombre grammar school building. Mildly hysterical outbreaks of laughter at the sight of the classrooms, smaller than memory had preserved them, and everywhere the murmur: "Erinnerst du dich noch?" ("Do you still remember?")

But the 29 members of the class of 1943 at the Johann-Gottfried Seule school who gathered in the village of Vacha last weekend never expected to see their school again. For more than 40 years it lay in the *Spergebiet* — the three-mile wide buffer zone between the former East and West Germany closed to visitors, an officially designated no man's land whose residents could enter only with special passes.

A bridge links Vacha, in the east, with its narrow wooden houses and tiny medieval marketplace, with the neighbouring town of Philippsthal on the western side of the Werra river. In 1943, the Russians marched into Vacha, but stopped at the river. This was to become the demarcation line for the Soviet and American zones, the front line of the cold war. The bridge was then sealed. One resident whose house straddled the new border found a wall erected through his property, and the eastern wing of it walled up.

A metal grille in the middle of the river, automatic shooting devices and, in 1961, a full-scale concrete wall, cemented the division of the two villages. From Philippsthal they could see the church, but not attend relatives' funerals held there. Once in a while a bedraggled figure who had dodged the shots and negotiated the wire would arrive on the western bank. More often there were volleys of shots, and then silence.

When the border between East and West Germany opened, Ingrid Morris, who was living in retirement in Uxminster, east London, promised herself a return to her school. As a child she cycled across the bridge daily. "I just wanted to stand on it again," she says.

Mrs Morris left Germany for Britain in 1950, married and settled down. She recently retired from her job as a court clerk. "There was no future at all in Philippsthal," she says. "It has been asleep for 40 years. Seven of my class ended up in East Germany; they might as well have been dead for us. Today is like seeing ghosts."

The fate of the former East Germans incarcerated in the buffer zone made it easy to forget the suffering of the western communities jammed up against it. Philippsthal has the uneasy, smothered feel of an introverted community. "We were up against communism here," the pub landlord says bitterly. "Nobody came."

The class is busy recalling

After 40 years,
Ingrid Morris (right)
can visit her
'lost' neighbours.
Anne McElvay
reports from a small
town in Germany



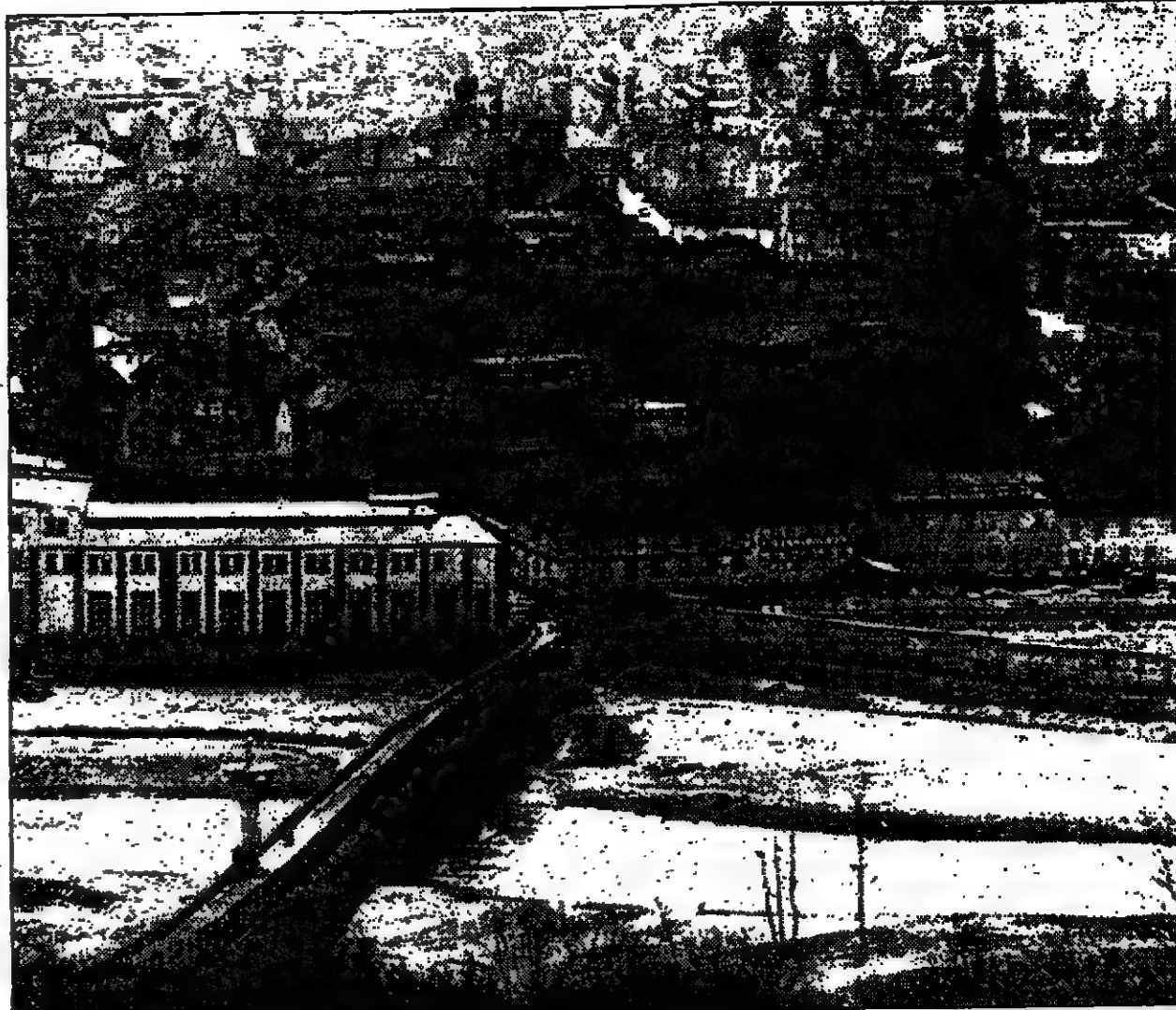
he has since taught history in a nearby village. He is mildly resentful of what he cautiously refers to as the "well-meant advice" of the westerners. "For them it is just the fall of a regime, we are suddenly free again. But they forget that for people of our generation, who went to school under Nazism, the East German state was a great hope. We believed that we could build a just, socialist society out of the ruins of fascism."

In Vacha was so complicated that Frau Schmidt used to apply for a yearly pass and visit parents in their homes instead.

Her open, country features darken as she talks of the wasted years, the senseless pretences of the communist system: "We fell from the one dictatorship into the other," she says. "My task now is to ensure that my pupils do not fall for it again."

You can still tell the East Germans in the group from those who have lived in the West; they wear zip-up instead of double-breasted jackets for best, and are noticeably less buoyant and jovial than their western counterparts.

Karl Henrich returned to the region after being taken prisoner of war by the British;



Aerial view of a bridge to memory: the link across the Werra river between Philippsthal, in what was West Germany and Vacha, which was cut off for almost half a century in the communist East

The swastika was replaced after the war with the East German state symbol of hammer and compass and then the ubiquitous picture of Erich Honecker, which was itself hastily taken down when he was removed from power last November.

On the walls hang new maps of the federal state of Thuringia, which was officially dissolved by the communists in 1952 and revived earlier this year.

"We are learning a new way for the third time this century," says Hannelore Schmidt, the deputy headmistress. She has been there for 30 years, living in a community dominated by a military rule-book, identity documents, a constant state of alert.

"We suffered doubly here," she says. The 5,000 residents of Vacha had very little contact with the rest of East Germany. "Even for weddings or funerals we could only invite first-degree relatives, no cousins or friends. We lived in each other's pockets: they just sealed us off in a pen here, like sheep." The community was shattered by two waves of expulsions in which ideologically suspect families were moved out overnight.

The neighbouring village of Oberzeitz lay even closer to the West — a mere 500 yards, and in the top security zone. The bureaucracy involved in getting the residents of Oberzeitz to parents' evenings

& BRIEFLY

Romancing the stones



A GIRL'S best friends in all their glory will go on display next month in what is claimed to be the biggest and most valuable exhibition of diamonds to be held in London for more than 30 years. The stones can be ogled at Garrard, the crown jewellers, from November 7 until December 1. One of Queen Victoria's diamond tiaras will be on view, together with a "Garrard Star" brooch which has been designed for the exhibition, and which comes in different sizes from about £2,000 to £10,000.

De Beers will launch its New Cuts collection in Britain with unconventionally cut diamonds in yellow, pink and green. A diamond cutter will be in the store, at 112 Regent Street, London W1, throughout the first week and after that on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Hearty eating

THIS week has been designated Cholesterol Countdown Week, with the Family Heart Association planning to construct a huge jigsaw puzzle comprising 180,000 pieces to represent the number of

deaths from coronary heart disease in Britain every year. You can "purchase" a piece for £1 from the FHA, 9 West Way, Botley, Oxford OX2 0JB (0865 798969) and Holland & Barrett health food shops. The money enters contestants in a prize draw, and also helps fund the work of the association. The FHA provides dietary advice with the motto "There are no bad foods — just bad diets". Some biscuits, chips and roast potatoes, nuts, lobster, alcohol and other treats are allowed "in moderation", but butter, chocolate, whole milk, duck, siltan, pâté and cream crackers are banned.

Sew far...

ANOTHER facet of the needlework designer Kaffe Fassett will be revealed when the first Ehrman wallpaper and fabric shop opens next week. The shop, at 21/22 Vicarage Gate, London W8, will stock the new range of Fassett wallpapers and a selection of his fabrics produced for the Designer's Guild.

All clear

MAKERS of water filters might raise their glasses to recent worries about the quality of some domestic water supplies. One of the most innovative contenders is the new Filter Fresh, which fits in the door of the average refrigerator. This means the water can be stored at a temperature which gives rise to fewer bacteria, according to the manufacturer, William Levene. Price: £7.99, with refill charcoal filter £3.99 for two. From local stockists or William Levene Ltd, 167 Imperial Drive, Harrow, Middlesex HA2 7JP (081-868 4355).

VICTORIA MCKEE

NUMBER X OF SWEET FAREWELLS (AND SWEETER BEGINNINGS)

GLENMORANGIE

10 YEARS OLD

SINGLE HIGHLAND MALT

SCOTCH WHISKY

John Murray is a Seasoned Observer of the effects of Time and Change upon the Men, and upon the whisky which his skill helps to coax

from Ross-shire Barley and Spring Water. (In John falls the duty of WELCOMING in the new Distillation). Over the years he must occasionally ACCOMMODATE a significant

newcomer at the Distillery, in the elegant swan-backed shape of the New Still. The replacement of these Distillery work-horses involves John in a ritual known as 'Sweetening The Still'. This sends him away up the

Morangie Hill, armed with an old mesh sack which he fills with a quantity of peat, heather and herbs. By boiling this fragrant concoction John can speedily exercise any rawness in the new copper and so ease the newcomer into

its role of sweetening the existence of Malt-lovers everywhere.



HANDCRAFTED BY THE SIXTH MAN OF THIS

ROCK

500,000 reasons to be grateful

As the American rock group Grateful Dead gives its first British concerts since 1981, Melanie Finn meets some fanatical followers

Workers at the Shoreline Amphitheater near San Francisco had seen a lot of strange things. But nothing as weird as this bunch of neo-hippies, tie-dyed gypsies who danced and whirled, their eyes glazed over. Everywhere there was music — sometimes it was a bit like bluegrass, but then it had a rock rhythm, and a sort of New Age thing. Everyone was swaying, creating a vibrating mass of colour and long hair and marijuana smoke.

These people are the faithful, fervent followers of the Grateful Dead, the only psychedelic band that has survived the polyester of the Seventies and the greed of the Eighties with its popularity intact. Dead fans number perhaps 500,000 — a sizeable following even in America and despite the fact that the band has only ever had one Top 10 hit.

Now, Dead Heads are not just fans; they are obsessive. They fix the Grateful Dead at the centre of their lives. Dead Heads do not just buy the odd CD or poster; they have created and perpetuated a huge, self-contained counter-culture based on the music of their private gods: Jerry Garcia, Bob Weir, Phil Lesh, Mickey Hart, Bill Kreutzmann and the recently deceased Brent Mydland.

Dead Heads live according to unwritten codes of conduct. They have their own nationally syndicated Dead Head radio show and their own magazines. Their worldwide network of tape collectors, with the band's blessing, records all Dead performances and shares them with other fanatic archivists. They have their own computer-linked database system. The Well, which is used as a forum for gossip and a means of direct communication with the band itself, their own drugs addiction programme: their own information hotline and phone-in ticket sales operations; their own travel agency and their own set of symbols. There is even an ice-cream called "Cherry Garcia".

Dead Heads do not just go to the occasional concert; they travel

thousands of miles for shows, living on the road for months — even years — at a time in their Volkswagen vans and converted school buses, selling tie-dyed socks, vegetarian burritos and drugs for petrol money.

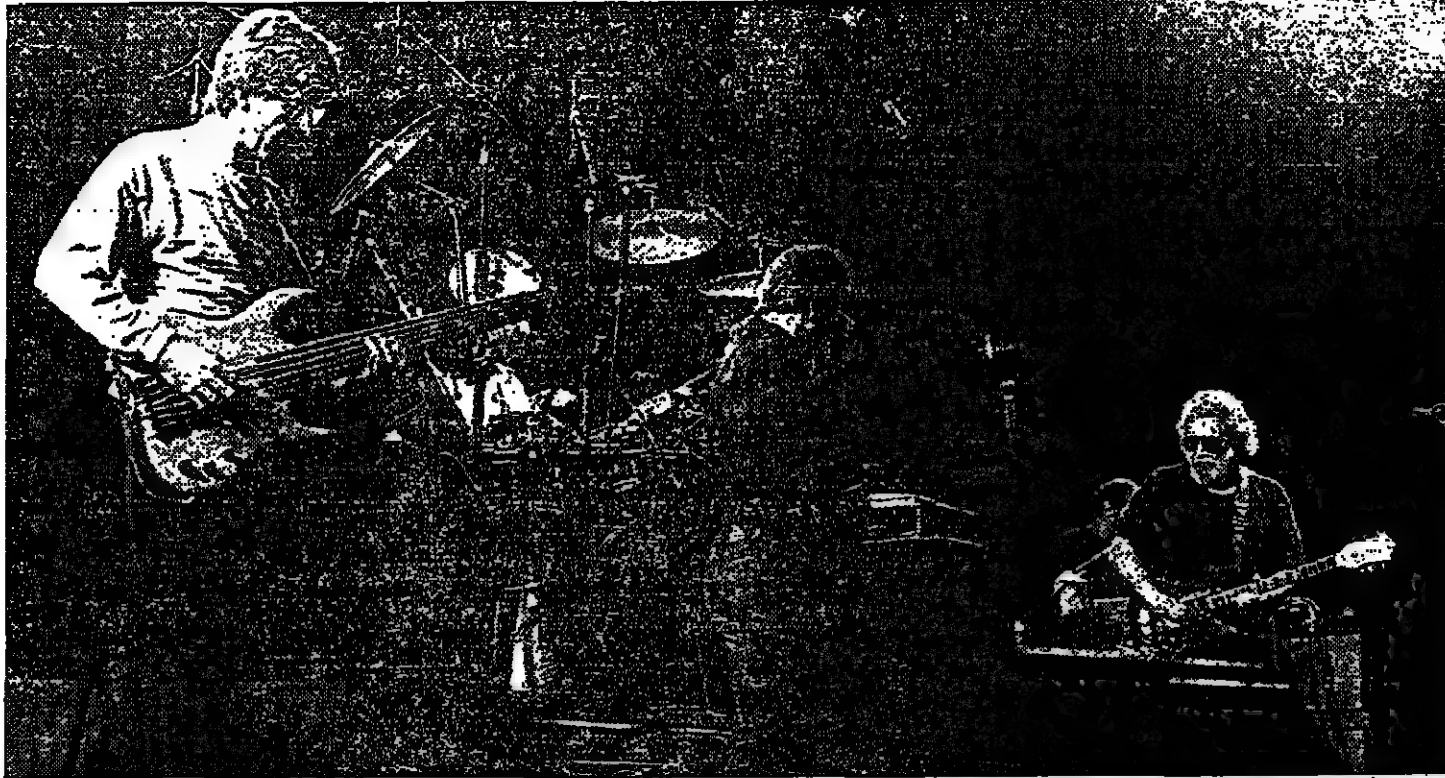
Bill Field, who has been to 634 Grateful Dead concerts, joined the band and the bearded on tour in his early twenties. For a year and a half, he slept on benches and in VW vans. He begged for money and spent some of it having a Grateful Dead skull tattooed on his right arm. At concerts he waited for "a miracle": a free ticket. More often than not he was given one by other Dead Heads in a show of brotherly love. He is getting a second skull tattooed on his left arm for his 25th birthday. "My moral standards and values have been shaped by the Grateful Dead," he says. "They are my philosophy."

But not all Dead Heads are hippies. Stuart Nixon, senior manager of a San Francisco-based genetics firm, never wears tie-dye. He began following the Grateful Dead in 1969, fell in love with his future wife at a concert, toured with the band for his honeymoon and has a collection of 2,000 Dead tapes. His three-year-old child has been to 38 concerts.

Why this extraordinary dedication to six middle-aged men who play music that, in the words of one critic, is at best, "noble but lame"? Why are grown-ups still throwing their souls into the wind with the kind of fervour that has, according to sources quoted in *Rolling Stone* magazine, made the Dead the single most successful touring band in rock history? The band grossed \$28 million in 1989, most of which came from ticket sales. On one day alone, last year, they made a net profit of \$870,000 on ticket sales.

The band first garnered a small following in the hippie days of Haight-Ashbury, and were the favoured group for LSD parties, when the drug was still legal. The free-form style of the Dead's music fitted the mood perfectly.

Although two of the keyboardists have died from over-



Bluegrass, rock and a little New Age: the Grateful Dead on stage in New York this year

doses and the remaining members drive BMWs, to the faithful the Grateful Dead still embody the best of the Sixties: the humanity, the unity, the spontaneity, the spirituality, and the bare feet. After all, the band gave away \$650,000 last year to needy organisations. They still wear tie-dye and never play any song the same way twice, although sometimes they play the same song for three hours.

And while critics have labelled the Grateful Dead "nostalgia mongers", Dead Heads counter that there can be nothing wrong with attaching themselves to values which they claim are gentler and more enriching than anything the Reagan-Bush era has produced.

"For me the status quo just doesn't work any more. I mean, mainstream America is an apathetic and lonely place," says Bill Bacon, an artist who discovered the Dead when he left the Salvation Army two years ago. "But among Dead Heads there is energy, a sense of hope and an intense spirit of community."

Like many other Dead Heads, Bacon, an awkward child of

missionary parents in Alaska, found an outlet for his spirituality beyond the confines of organised religion. While he finds "harmony", Stuart Nixon believes the Dead are a channel for some higher power to come to earth and be focused. In the music there is this extraordinary energy.

Garcia came up with the name "Dead Head" in 1971; and certain symbols — roses, skulls, dancing bears — recur in the band's artwork. Trademarked or copyrighted, these are plastered on T-shirts and car stickers, so Dead Heads have a means of identifying each other.

For many years the Grateful Dead also allowed camping and vending at their concerts. Eventually, the band clamped down, partly because the drugs were becoming an all-too-obvious merchandise, partly because some \$200,000 a day was being lost to vendors selling copyrighted Dead paraphernalia illegally. Yet vending continues at most shows, though in a far less conspicuous manner. Says Dead Head Derek Plummer: "It's all part of being a Dead Head. You know, come to the show, buy a T-shirt, hang out

and meet old friends. There is more than just music."

Unfortunately, there is more than just the music. There are a lot of drugs. Last year, a young fan — reportedly out of control on acid — choked to death. Another was found dead outside the Brendan Byrne Arena in New Jersey. At any Dead show, drug pushers sell tabs of acid decorated with dancing bears or roses.

The Dead have officially condemned the use of drugs. However, the band's first keyboard player, Figgien, died in 1973 of liver failure a year after he had apparently conquered a serious drug and alcohol addiction; Garcia almost died from his cocaine and heroin habit in the mid-Eighties; and Brent Mydland, keyboard player since 1979, died of a morphine overdose last August. The drugs problem has worsened since the Dead's 1987 hit, "Touch of Grey", and the band has been banned from several major American venues.

According to Bruce Krenitz, production stage manager at the Frost Amphitheater on California's Stanford University campus, the Dead were banned two years

ago when the drugs got out of hand. "In the past, when the Dead showed up, the crowd was easy to control. But it's not as mellow as it used to be," he says. "I mean, some guy set his wife and child on fire three years ago."

In nearby Palo Alto, residents complained of a significant increase in shoplifting during Dead shows. Fans were setting up campsites illegally, a real danger in a town under the constant threat of forest fires. And for several weeks after a concert, there was an excess of drugs in the community.

As one shopkeeper put it: "It's not just the band that comes, it's the whole damn bunch of them, with their drugs and their cars that leak oil all over my parking lot."

The majority of Dead Heads, however, are harmless. They are not the seventh coming of the Visigoths," says Dennis MacNally, spokesman for the band. "They may look weird and they may act weird, but they love their band and the music and each other."

● The Grateful Dead are at Wembley Arena (081-900 1234) on October 30, 31 and November 1 at 7.30pm

BRIEFING

Happy birthday

THE Young Vic, which has enjoyed a long and happy association with the American playwright Arthur Miller, is celebrating his 75th birthday on Sunday with an evening devoted to his life and work. There will be performed extracts from all of Miller's major plays, as well as readings from his autobiography, *Timebends*, and footage from interviews with him. All of the actors taking part — including Zoe Wanamaker, David Calder and Susannah York — have been in past productions of Miller's plays at the Young Vic (071-633 0133). The birthday celebration will launch the Save The Young Vic Festival, which is aiming to keep the cash-starved theatre open. There will be 73 events over eight days, including plays, master classes, celebrity interviews, discussions, and poetry readings.

Posturing

WHEN the Museums and Galleries Commission was still the Standing Commission on Museums and Galleries, it moved into its splendid St James's Square lodgings. Life for the commission in those days was more sedentary, to the extent that was dubbed it the Recumbent Commission. Now, greatly expanded, it has moved into more spacious accommodation in Queen Anne's Gate. Staff are very happy with their new home, except for the annoying slope, which encourages things to roll off desks. Needless to say, the wags are at it again. So pronounced is the list that the quango is being dubbed, at least by those within, the Sliding Commission on Museums and Galleries.

Last chance

CARYL Churchill's spirited look at modern Romania, *Mad Forest*, suggests that the nastier the tyranny, the nastier the aftermath. The play was written as an end-of-term production for the students of Central School; Public response was so enthusiastic that its drama-school run was extended and a short season arranged at the Royal Court. (071-730 1745). This Saturday the axe must fall at last, and the vampire and the archangel — which are Churchill's symbols for the forces tearing the country apart — will dance their last wedding waltz.

OPERA PREVIEW

Rude as in raw and not as in naughty

Since his death in 1973, at the age of 53, the music of Bruno Maderna has fallen into the usual posthumous neglect, made perhaps more inevitable in his case by the fact that his most ambitious scores leave large degrees of freedom to the performers, and that, in some cases, the "work" consists of raw material out of which a performance has to be shaped. His chamber opera *Satyricon*, one of his last pieces, is typical, being an assembly of 16 musical numbers in no particular order, possibly with electronic tapes to be used as well, and with a range of usually rude musical references to everything from the cancan to Wagner. It is a matter of packing a great deal of heterogeneous experience into a small space, which is what Maderna achieved in his life.

He began his conducting career when he was 12, as a baby-faced "Brunetto"; then came a period of study interrupted by war service. Like his fellow Venetian, Luigi Nono, he was encouraged by the most distinguished Venetian composer of the previous generation, Gian Francesco Malipiero, and also by the German conductor Hermann Scherchen. Malipiero taught the two young composers to be open to both old music and new. Scherchen introduced them to Schoenberg's 12-note technique. They both began writing 12-note pieces in the late 1940s, and gravitated naturally to the new hot-house of progressive music: Darmstadt.

There Maderna became a leading figure, as composer, conductor and teacher, even though his approach was very different from

that of his colleagues, Stockhausen and Boulez. His scores and his few writings give no evidence of the analytic temperament that fired them: he was prepared to experiment — his *Musica su due dimensioni* of 1952 has a place in the history books as the first piece to be played by a live performer with tape — but he was most essentially an improviser. His 1955 *Siringa* Quartet, in which a rigid structure opens up into lyricism and warmth, was an object lesson to himself, as it was to other composers.

It was at this point that Luciano Berio became his closest musical colleague. The two men shared an attitude of inclusiveness and generosity; they worked together on some pieces; and they joined in creating an electronic music studio in Milan in the mid-1950s.

Professionally, however, Maderna followed more the path of Boulez in moving from leading small ensembles through the knottiest new music to conducting symphony orchestras.

Like Boulez, too, he became fascinated by the concept of the "open work", and devoted most of his creative energies in the 1960s to various forms of his first theatre piece, *Hyperion*. Then in 1969 he began a "final period" of astonishing productivity: within five years, eight big orchestral works, besides *Satyricon* and a variety of smaller pieces. A sudden crescendo to the end.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

● *Satyricon* opens at the DeWitt Hall, Chelsea Theatre, London WC1 (071-637 8270) tonight at 8pm and continues until November 10

TELEVISION

Get set to be bored to death

APOLOGIES must be made to jelly manufacturers worldwide. In previewing *Twin Peaks* for *Saturday Review*, I suggested that episode one was about as exciting as watching jelly set. Having sat through it again last night on BBC 2, it occurs to me that the setting of jelly is a vastly more complex, exciting and dramatic undertaking. The director of this acclaimed American television series, David Lynch, is, we are told by an admiring Mel Brooks, "the James Stewart of Mars", by which token his series is *Peyton Place from the Planet Mars*.

Reports from the United States indicate that, after phenomenal ratings for the first instalment, they fell away quite sharply. The miracle is surely how they held up for even the first 90 minutes that it took us last night to work out that

it was of no great importance who killed Laura Palmer. If the surrounding life of *Twin Peaks* is anything to go by, the probably died of a lethal mixture of boredom, inertia and old movie memories.

Lynch is, I think, trying to say that nothing is quite what it seems in a small town near the Canadian border, where there may well be something very nasty in the wood shed. If there is, it certainly is not going to be revealed much before Christmas. Lynch himself wrote the opener with his co-producer, Mark Frost, of *Hill Street Blues*, and what they seem to be attempting is a parody of B-movie thrillers from the late 1950s: hence the presence of such minor movie stars of that period as Piper Laurie, Richard Beymer and Russ Tamblyn. They have also, I would

guess, decided to use the murder of the high-school queen Laura as what Hitchcock used to call his McGuffin, a device to hook the viewer but one which can then be abandoned as the story plods off in other directions.

In this case, Lynch and Frost are keen to explore the mud on the other side of the white picket fence as a picturesque lakeside community drifts into tension and hostility. Most English producers would rapidly have called in Miss Marple to sort out the culprit, but the makers of *Twin Peaks* are determined to treat us to another 25 characters, all of whom had last night to be introduced, assigned their very own lovable little quirks, and then fitted very slowly into the surreal jigsaw.

Still more terrifyingly, there is promised another entire series, which makes it unlikely that even by Christmas it will be clear we are going to be told who killed Laura or why she was found to have somebody's else's initials stuck under her fingernails. The trouble with Lynch and Frost is that they are determined to drift through all the 1950s conventions of small-town murder mysteries, clue by boring clue, until the eccentricities of the suspects are the only possible alibis for having started the trail in the first place.

An understandably confused-looking cast give amazingly wooden performances, presumably in tribute to the log cabins all around them, while all that has really emerged from part one is the thought that *Twin Peaks* is not the place anybody would choose for an Awayday.

This is either a formative post-modernist breakthrough in lateral unstructured thrillers, or else a derivative and pretentious load of old Hollywood tat. Although, on the basis of part one, I am strongly inclined to the latter view, it might just be worth staying around in case something finally starts to happen. In my more paranoid moments, however, I have started to suspect that *Twin Peaks* may turn out to be the punishment that BBC executives are visiting on me for having made fun of *Portrait of a Marriage*: come home Vita, all is forgiven.

SHERIDAN MORLEY



self respect

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LITERATURE

Juggling with war lines

Author Kurt Vonnegut discusses his latest novel, *Hocus Pocus*, with Peter Lewis

Kurt Vonnegut, the Sage of Indianapolis, is in town and his fans will want to know what prophecies he makes about the current chaos and so on. Fresh from playing six-a-side chess against Kasparov, he shambled into a view like a bear with a curly top and gave a wonky, wary grin from beneath the moustache. He is six-foot-two and, he says himself, poorly co-ordinated except when swimming. As usual, he has frequent recourse to a pack of Pall Mall.

His new book is called *Hocus Pocus* and, like all Vonnegut, is a form of fiction which is also a philosophical chat with the reader in the most laid-back, so-it-goes manner. The book's title reflects the subject of what Vonnegut's narrator became an expert in when serving in Vietnam as a colonel in public relations — justifying what was going on there until the excrement hit the air conditioning, as he puts it. "Hocus pocus," exclaimed Vonnegut. "What else do we hear at this minute about the Gulf Crisis? The one thing said over and over again is — This is not about oil, so people won't know that we may be asking our boys to die for petroleum. Not to mention the armaments industry, which is our largest industry. Even bigger than cocaine."

As William Owen said in the trenches, in times of crisis a writer's function is to warn. "But there are such engines in motion now, like TV, that you can only look on with black humour." Ever since *Slaughterhouse-Five*, which concealed amid its fantasies like a buried aramid-pellet his eyewitness account of the fire-bombing of Dresden, his theme has been human stupidity. "Most troubles on a political scale come down to stupidity and ignorance."

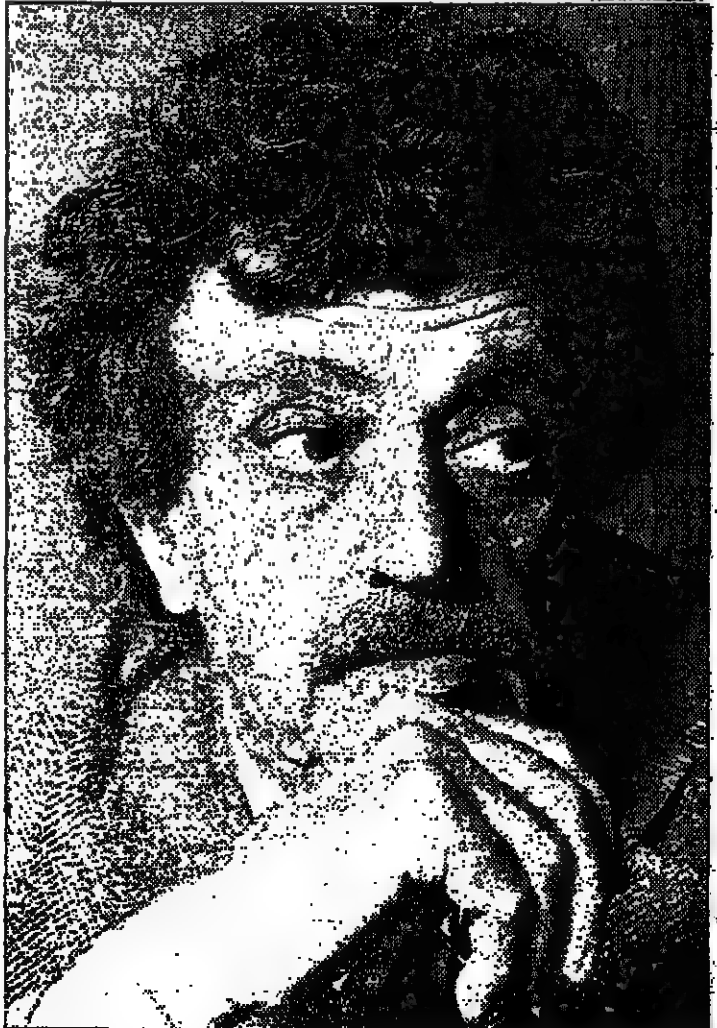
His new book is set in the year 2001, when the United States is bankrupt and most of it owned by Japanese and Koreans. Almost everybody has lost their money in a huge arbitrage swindle. The epiphany that he suggests for the polluted planet, to be carved on a wall in Grand Canyon for flying-saucer people to read, is: "We could have saved it but we were too doggone cheap."

In Vonnegut's 2001 there has been none of the expected planting of the American flag on Mars or Venus. No Arthur C. Clarke-like adventures at all. "That's because the human race isn't going anywhere. We are among the largest animals on earth, bigger than most big cats. It's not possible to burgle all this flesh and bone about in space. In terms of high-school physics, it would take the energy of the entire planet, supposing you could burn it in some way, to get a man to the next galaxy. The space programme is bread and circuses now."

"That means there's no more frontier — a terrible thing to lose for some Americans who need to feel we are getting somewhere, there's limitless opportunity. People resent having been lied to in their childhood. The idea that the human race is going somewhere is a childhood myth, like Santa Claus. I don't know why that's unbearable to anybody. Life's absorbing enough as it is. This is our field. This is it."

The planet of Tralfamadore that makes frequent appearances in his books is a purely literary device, created, like Swift's flying island, in order to contrast the reason of its inhabitants with the absurdity of earthlings who think they are the glory of the universe.

Vonnegut, a fourth-generation German American, whose name is derived from the River Vonne, is



Vonnegut: "The idea that the human race is going somewhere is a myth"

proud of his midwestern origins. He began as a PR man for General Electric, where he had to conceal that they were working on automation (hence his first book, *Player Piano*). His viewpoint of the innocent abroad from Indiana has something in common with that of another self-taught midwestern writer, Mark Twain. Vonnegut was reading Mark Twain's *What is Man?*, which he had brought with him.

"He was a genius who came east and was treated as a barbarian. To be an accepted literary figure on the eastern seaboard you had to have gone to private school and

Harvard, Yale or Princeton. I went to Cornell when I graduated from Indianapolis. There were only three of us who went east. My credentials are not in order. What could be more ridiculous than denying your origins? All his life, T.S. Eliot suppressed the fact that he came from St Louis. There he was, dressing like an Englishman, sounding like an Englishman, writing about the Church of England. Nobody laughed. They would have if an Englishman turned up in Wyoming talking like a cowboy."

● *Hocus Pocus* is published tomorrow by Cape, £13.99

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ARTS

THEATRE

Broadway is back on top

Survival in New York's theatre world is tough, but the shows there put London to shame, as Matt Wolf reports

Among London's theatregoers, it is fashionable to turn a derisive eye towards the New York stage, but these days it is the Big Apple that should take a moment to gloat. While the economics of Broadway remain as parlous as ever, the quality of theatre around the city nevertheless surpasses much of what is on offer in the West End. Is that because New York flops tend to be a hasty retreat, rather than lingering painfully on view as they would in London? Perhaps, but something more basic is evident as well: a genuine imaginative rebirth throughout the American theatre that seems to be catching up playwrights, actors, and directors alike.

Audiences, too. At *Six Degrees Of Separation*, John Guare's exceptional new play at Lincoln Center, one encounters the increasingly rare sound of a public virtually hanging on every syllable lest they miss a nuance of this dramatist's most searching work. The place is New York, and the time is now in what constitutes as much of a zeitgeist piece for its milieu as, say, the plays of Alan Ayckbourn and David Hare do on this side of the Atlantic. Guare drew his inspiration from a newspaper article about a young black man who coned his way into the apartments of several white, upper-class New Yorkers by claiming to be a schoolfriend of their children.

From this anecdote, the author has fashioned a work that could not be less derivative. While Guare has the specifics of contemporary Manhattan down frighteningly well, this is no theatrical equivalent to the Andy Warhol diaries that the play at one point invokes. Rather, it is a threeparty for an age where to be rich, savvy and clever does

not begin to suffice; what these characters crave is connection, in order to anchor them in a world which we are told is "all random".

Jerry Zuck's production has been the sellout hit of the summer at Lincoln Center's intimate Mitzel Newhouse Theatre. When it moves upstairs next week to the complex's larger Vivian Beaumont auditorium, it will complete the same journey taken by Zuck's definitive staging of Guare's *House of Blue Leaves*, which won four Tony Awards in 1986.

It does not take long in New York, a city ravaged by the triple crises of Aids, homelessness and "crack", before one notes that being hip has long since been displaced by a desire simply to survive. In *Falsettoland*, running off Broadway at the Lucille Lortel Theatre, composer William Finn and his indispensable director, James Lapine, turn compassionate thoughts to the topic of survival, in a 70-minute song-cycle that completes a trilogy begun over a decade ago.

The new show is set in 1981, during the onset of Aids, as the trilogy's hero, Marvin (Michael Rupert), is preparing for his son's bar mitzvah and adjusting to the news that his ex-lover, Whizzer (Stephen Bogardus), has contracted a mysterious disease described by a doctor as "a trend with no name".

Before long, of course, that "trend" would become a scourge, and *Falsettoland* hints quietly at the large-scale grief that the Eighties would bring. The musical is also absolutely honest about the redefinition in the last ten years of the urban American family, here defined as a septet embracing not just Marvin, his ex-wife and his ex-lover, but also his two lesbian neighbors, a doctor, a caterer and the psychiatrist whom his ex-

wife has since married. On a small stage using a tiny band, Finn and Lapine have devised a most generous chamber musical, guaranteed to hearten those concerned that the future of the genre lies solely in the British behemoth.

Such leviathans get a gleeful drubbing in the updated version of *Forbidden Broadway* (at Theatre East). Gerard Alessandrini's long-running affectionate parody of the tarnished White Way, here enlarged to include the hits of the season just passed, from Tyne Daly in *Gypsy* to the Tommy Tune musical *Grand Hotel* (here re-titled "Grim Hotel"), Alessandrini has always had a whiff of the drama critic about him, and it is hard to imagine a more devastating treatment of *Aspects of Love* than the present mini-pastiche.

One performer who escapes unscathed from *Forbidden Broadway* is Broadway's lone Dame — Maggie Smith — who



Compassionate: William Finn's 70-minute song-cycle *Falsettoland* is a current success

has turned Peter Shaffer's *Lettice and Lovage* (at the Barrymore Theatre) into the sort of bona fide British smash that New York has not seen since *Noises Off* and *The Real Thing* opened back-to-back in 1983-84. Those who saw the production in London might want to give it another look, since both the play and its now wonderfully wiggled star seem in much stronger shape than they did on the West End.

In London, the play began promisingly but then fell off in each of its subsequent two acts. On Broadway, the second act proves the emotional heart of a show that did not have one in London, as the extravagant Lettice strikes up a rapport with her contrastingly dour former employer, Margaret Tyack's Lotte Schoen. Tyack, too, deserves much of the credit here; whereas in London she often seemed to

be looking on agog as her colleague flailed unfailingly away, the two Maggies in New York play with the complicity that comes from three years of discovering the source of the script's laughs and truths. Of course, all it takes is one British hit, and suddenly producers open the floodgates. November sees the New York bows of both *Buddy* and *Shadowlands*, while *Another Time*, *Kean* and the Richard

Harris *Henry IV* are being mooted for the spring. Meanwhile, it is Dame Maggie who nightly is bringing Broadway to its feet with the sort of enthusiasm that, decades ago, might have been reserved for Buddy Holly. Screams of approval at a curtain call, directed towards Maggie Smith? As Lettice Douffet might say, when it comes to starring on Broadway, there is nothing "mere" about it.

CRITIC'S CHOICE: NEW YORK

FALSETTOLAND, Lucille Lortel Theatre, 121 Christopher Street (212-924 8782).

FORBIDDEN BROADWAY, Theatre East, 211 East 60 Street (212-539 9080).

LETTICE AND LOVAGE, Barrymore Theatre, 243 West 47 Street (212 229 6200).

SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION, Lincoln Center Theatre, West 65 Street (212-239 6200).

Also now running

CITY OF ANGELS, Virginia Theatre, 245 West 52 Street (212-246 0102). Tony Award-winning musical, by David Zippel and Cy Coleman, about a fiction writer in 1940s Los Angeles. Directed by Michael Blakemore.

GYPSY, St James Theatre, 246 West 44 Street (212 246 0102). Arthur Laurents's tumultuous revival of the Stephen Sondheim/Jule Styne musical about the monstrous Mama Rose, played by Linda Lavin.

MACHINAL, Public Theatre, 425 Lafayette Street (212 598 7150). Obscure 1920s play by the American writer Sophie Treadwell, about the debasement and dehumanisation of a young woman.

PIANO LESSON, Walter Kerr Theatre, 219 West 48 Street (212-582 4022). The latest in black American playwright August Wilson's ongoing examination of black life in the United States this century. A brother and sister struggle over the sacred family heirloom, a piano.

MATT WOLF

CLASSICAL MUSIC

French leave

James Bowman, one of our leading countertenors, tells Hilary Finch why he is retiring from the stage



Bowman: Britten's choice directionless. I had to be very careful what I did at that time. I just had to take the voice to pieces and start all over again. But I came out of it, and Hall's *Dream* restored my self-confidence. The main thing I learned from him was that, when in doubt, do nothing. Oberon is essentially the still centre, the incredibly calm core of the piece."

By then, Bowman had already played the role in a revelatory production by Elijah Moshinsky, which toured Australia but was never seen in Britain. "He really crystallised the role for me. He emphasised Oberon's menacing, all-pervading influence."

Eight productions and 178 performances on, Bowman now turns to working with director David Meyer, who has worked with Peter Brook's Royal Shakespeare Company production and who has played every male part in the play himself. There is talk of Edwardian lovers, Aztecs, fairy scavengers and fairy rings in Neolithic sites. "It won't be what I call a sackcloth and ashes production. It'll be pleasing to the eyes as well as, I hope, to the ear."

Bowman now spends much of his time recording, working with "The King's Concert" (this month sees releases on Hyperion of Handel's Italian duets and Schütz's *Christmas Story*). British audiences see little of him mainly because he works mostly in France. "The French baroque scene is, I think, even healthier than ours at the moment. Even for a little recital with baroque instruments in Limoges, hundreds of adoring fans appear from nowhere. They've invited me to give my 25th anniversary celebration in 1992 at the Palais Garnier with the Paris Opera."

■ A *Midsummer Night's Dream* opens tonight at Sadler's Wells, Rossbery Avenue, London EC1 (071-576 8910).

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JANE ASHER



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Hotpoint

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REVIEWS

Fun with a fistful of hollers

THEATRE
Five Guys Named Moe
Theatre Royal,
Stratford East

SHOWS which celebrate or anthologise songwriters and dead performers are, to be rigorous, a dangerous theatrical indulgence. The energy and money should be directed at creating something new, rather than trawling the past. But when the archive-raiding produces something as winning and exhilarating as this, Clarke Peters' tribute to bandleader Louis Jordan, such strictures can be laughed out of the theatre.

Peters has taken 18 or 20 songs, either written or first made familiar by Jordan in his Forties and early Fifties heyday, and strung them together with a story which never gets in the way of the entertainment. "Saturday Night Fish Fry", "There Ain't Nobody Here but Us Chickens", "Is You or Is You Ain't?", "What's the Use of Getting Sober?", "Caldonia" and the title song are merely the most widely known of a richly inventive and often comic bunch.

As the programme notes have it, Jordan was the musical father of Chuck Berry and Bill Haley. Lieber & Stoller's songs for the Coasters were in direct line of descent from such as "I Like 'Em Fat", "Messie Bessie" and "Dad Gum Your Hide, Boy", all also included here.

Charles Augins, director and choreographer, gives the songs an impeccable turn-out: Big Moe (Kenny Andrews), Little Moe (Paul J. Medford), No Moe (Peter Alex Newton), Eat Moe (Omar Okai) and Four-Eyed Moe (Clarke Peters) are as smoothly drilled and



Cool quintet (from left): Eat Moe, Little Moe, Big Moe, No Moe and Four-Eyed Moe

athletic a quintet as ever sang harmony. The sixth member of the cast is Nomax (Dig Wayne). Acting honours are difficult to assign, given the conviction and commitment common to all, but Wayne, Andrews, Medford and Peters himself have the greatest scope, and exploit it.

The five guys are conjured out of the air by Nomax, listening to Jordan's music on the radio. His life is transformed when these sharp-suited fast-talkers set about improving his attitude, setting him right with his girlfriend and smartening up his image.

They do this with songs and dance routines, sometimes letting him respond in kind. At various points in the show the structure is discarded and the audience is directly addressed, invited on stage or led in a conga around and out of the theatre for the interval.

The five-piece band at the rear of the stage (led by pianist Clement Ishmael) is exceptionally accomplished: the sound is full and never too loud. Props are flown in or carried on and off the single set, lighting and costumes are faultless. Only audiences allergic to rhythm and blues or in

search of a hard time could fail to be charmed by the show. Small, warm, shabby and atmospheric, the theatre itself is a contributory factor in the success of the evening. When, as seems inevitable, it transfers to the West End, the show will demand a similarly sympathetic setting: the Donmar and the Phoenix contributed much to the effectiveness of *Blues in the Night* and *One Mo' Time*, to which *Five Guys* is (are?) closely related. Its (their?) acquaintance is worth making.

TONY PATRICK

CABARET
Stand Up America!
Queen's

THIS was nearly a national embarrassment. Indeed, it came close to being a double embarrassment, awkward for both British and Americans. Here were the first three of what will be a total of 18 comedians from across the Atlantic, and two of them were comprehensively outjoked by their compère, a local lad named Jack Dee.

The contest was not fair, since Dee clearly knew his audience. As autumn moves towards winter, native English pessimism gets more marked, and Hancock-style humour seems especially apt. Armed with a dead-mushroom arm and a plump, surly, Dee took aim at cheerful fat people and

smug thin ones, slow trains and killer earthquakes, witchcraft in Rochdale and drought in Kent; and the more depressed his comic vision became, the funnier it seemed.

That neither Roger Kabler nor William Corneil established the same rapport was not altogether their fault. The English are less obsessed with celebrities than Americans, and that was bad news for Kabler, a mimic whose regular audiences doubtless find it so funny to hear Peter Falk's voice or see De Niro's facial expression that it hardly matters if he says nothing amusing. Moreover, his act became frantic and confusing. Suddenly Michael Jackson was imitating John Hurt being the Elephant Man. By the end, it would not have been surprising if Al Pacino had imitated Ronald Reagan imitating Vivien Leigh as Scarlett O'Hara.

Corneil, looking like an over-

age college kid, buzzed about to better effect. When he talked about religion and his own Jewish background, he even began to develop the consistent personality a good comic needs. It is, after all, quite funny to boast of a mother who puts slip covers over slip covers and to compare the movement of Jews for Jesus with "vegetarians for meat". But before long, Corneil's jokes had become scattered, his efforts to swap banter with an English audience desperately fizzling out as the producers should have warned him they would do.

The last comic was George Wallace, a large, anarchic black man with an instinct for spotting absurdity, including the personal one of bearing the name of a tiny, despotic white man. Altogether he proved more formidable than his compatriots. He lumbered onstage after Dee had told some morose jokes about his father-in-

law, and accused the Englishman of stealing the show. "I like that Jack Dee," added Wallace, "not without a certain genial menace."

His main line was the fatuity of his fellow-creatures and the desirability of his being ruler of the world, or at least of an America so misgoverned that, he assured us, "people are sneaking back into Mexico". That way, he could create special fast lanes for drunk drivers, blind disabled people's wheelchairs by rope to buses, and electrocute murderers by ceremonially dumping toasters into their baths.

The owners of his London hotel should be warned. It is so expensive, he said, he plans to steal the curtains as well as the towels. The rest of us can be grateful that at least one of the 18 Americans hitting the Queen's in the next six weeks has comic power.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

DANCE
A Flaming Desire
The Place

THE leading dancers in Extremopore Dance Theatre's new production give every sign of knowing just what they are about, even if Mark Bruce has to play Faust as a young man from the start, and Joanne Fong is a beguilingly feminine Mephistopheles. On the other hand, I was by no means convinced that Sean Walsh had a firm grip on his subject either as director or choreographer.

Who were all these other characters, I wondered during the first half, and although close study of the programme in the interval proved that I had guessed right for most of them, I still do not know why Marguerite's family were not a little vaudeville number. Nor did I see the Seven Deadly Sins that we were promised would appear. As for Faust travelling around the world in search of riches and experience, that takes place off stage and seems to be without avail.

Presumably the show is called *A*

Flaming Desire because lust is the only motive implied for Faust's contract with the devil. But Mark Bruce makes the hero such a cool, laid-back fellow, that it is hard to believe he has any great desires; besides, he looks capable of getting anything he wants without needing diabolical or any other help. In fact the only sign of real desire is on the face of Mephistopheles at the end, when she realises that the must cut this young man's throat (symbolically, with a line of lipstick only).

The muddled storytelling would have mattered less if the movement had been more interesting, but there was such a mixture of cliché, so much repetition, and all of it dragging on far too long. Much the same could be said for the music, an anthology of popular idioms partly written by Stephanie Nunn, the rest arranged by her from Trevor Jones's soundtrack for the film *Angel Heart* and from the song "Girl of My Dreams". Tim Hatley's setting of moveable frames gave the dancers something to do between numbers, re-arranging the pieces or looking through them with meaningful expressions.

JOHN PERCIVAL

Andrew Titcombe, left, Mark Bruce, seated, and Moana Nepia in Extremopore Dance Theatre's production, *A Flaming Desire*

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

LANCER

(a) A kind of lance, from the Old French *lance* + *zage* throwing spear, *cl. zage*. A lancey strong, fall twelve ell long. By every warrior long.

KERMIT

(c) A French person, a jocular nickname used by students in the Eighties, inspired by the character of Kermit the Frog in the American television series *The Muppet Show*. "Don't forget to send invitations to the Kermit."

DINANDERIE

(b) Decorative domestic brassware, originally made at Dinant in the Low Countries. "Kitchen utensils, which under the name of dinanderie were known to housewives throughout Europe, being regularly exported not only to France and Germany, but to England, Spain, and other countries."

WAMUS

(a) A kind of cardigan, or a strong jacket, belted at neck and wrists, from the Old French *wamuse* a military tunic originally worn under armor as padding to prevent bruising. "Thornton was attired with a red flannel wamus."

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

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OPERA & BALLET

NATIONAL OPERA HOUSE, LONDON. *Die Walküre*. Wagner. 7.30pm. Tickets: £10-£25. (01-477 7777).

THEATRES

ABELER 071 506 7611. *THE LANCER*. 7.30pm. Tickets: £10-£25. (01-477 7777).

ME AND MY GIRL

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BLOOD BROTHERS

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NEW RELEASES

◆ *BIRD ON A WIRE* (12). Empty-headed chestnut, with only Mel Gibson and Goldie Hawn's star power to pull it through. A tickle-tempt. Director: John Badham. Cannon Baker Street (01-435 9772). Fulham Road (01-430 2533). Strawberry Lane (01-588 8811). Plaza (01-497 5555). Wharfedale (01-732 3333/3324).

◆ *THE ENLIGHTENMENT* (12). Shunichi Nagasaki's strange, understated drama about a playwright who falls for a spirit-mediumist (Lena Olin). Director: John Badham. Cannon Baker Street (01-435 9772).

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CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated) with the symbol *ff* on release across the country.

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TELEVISION & RADIO

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
TELEVISION AND RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALE

6.00 **Celestia**
6.30 **BBC Breakfast News** with Nicholas
Witchell and Charlie Lee-Potter
8.50 **Daytime UK** presented by Alan
Titchmarsh and Judi Spiers in
Birmingham and Adrian Wells in
Manchester
9.00 **News**, regional news and weather
9.05 **Brainwaves**, Andy Cragg with the
daily quiz show 9.25 **Diary of the
Day**, Rosemary Moon with culinary tips
9.30 **People Today**, The show
includes medical advice from the
television doctor
10.00 **News**, regional news and weather
10.05 **Children's BBC** introduced by
Simon Parkin begins with **Playdays**
10.25 **The Family News** 10.35 **People
Today**, Tim Grundy turns the
spotlight on television in **Open Air**
11.00 **News**, regional news and weather
11.05 **Kilroy**, Robert Kilroy-Silk with
another topical discussion
programme 11.45 **Believe Me**, With
Adrian Wells and Nicky Phillips in
Manchester and Alan Titchmarsh and
Judi Spiers in Birmingham
12.00 **News**, regional news and weather
12.05 **Afternoon**, Cliff Michelmore and
Wendy Gibson invite viewers to
recall their happiest moments 12.20
Scene Today, Judi Spiers and Alan
Titchmarsh with the five daily
entertainment show 12.25 **Regional
news and weather**
1.00 **One O'Clock News** with Philip
Wilson
1.30 **Neighbours**, (Ceebe) 1.50 **Four
Squads**, Quiz game hosted by John
Sachs 2.15 **Knots Landing**, Soap
opera about the less well-heeled side of
the Ewing family

3.00 **Primetime**, David Jacobs with the
programme for people in their prime.
How to handle your doctor, Outward
Bound for the not-quite-teensagers, and
swinging to the sound of the Don
Lusher Big Band 3.40 **Duffy Duck**
Doublet
3.50 **Two by Two**, Nature series
presented by Jerry Powell 4.05 **Casualty**
Cast Show with Keith Harris and
Orville 4.20 **Fantastic Max**, Cartoon
adventures of a bionic baby 4.35
Hardbeat, Tony Hart and Margot Wilson
from the Art in Action Festival in
Oxfordshire, (Ceebe)
5.00 **Newsround**, News for children 5.10
Byker Grove, Episode three of the
Tyne-side-based drama serial
(Ceebe)
5.35 **Neighbours**, (Ceebe) Northern
Ireland: Spornwide 5.40 **Inside Ulster**
5.50 **Six O'Clock News** with Andrew
Harvey and Jill Dando, Weather
6.30 **Regional News** with
Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 **Wogan**, Tony's guests include Karl
Malden, the *Stranger in Paradise*
star, and, previewing the Children in
Need special, Sue Cook, Gloria
Huntford, Dave Benson Phillips and
Dylan Winter. Plus music from Dal Arail
7.25 **Doublet**, David Attenborough,
plunging warily through the Ivory Coast
jungle, looks and sounds genuinely
astonished as he keeps his eye on a bunch
of chimpanzees who have their eyes
on the monkeys they are planning to rip
limb from limb and consume while
still in their death throes. It is the first

time any of us will have heard Sir
David talking to being a monkey,
about his studies of monkey, and
therefore the sort that chimps seldom
tolerate. The *Stranger in Paradise*
episode, which is a comedy, does not
have the same healthy respect for Sir David,
who looks nothing like a chimp, and
yet is alive-bombed just like the
screaming victims of Hitchcock's
The Birds. There is another terrific
sequence tonight: killer whales
tossing seals around like unwanted toys
before making a meal of them. Not
repeat, not for the faint-hearted.
(Ceebe)
8.50 **Points of View** with Anne Robinson
9.00 **News** O'Clock News with Michael
Buerk, Regional news and weather
9.30 **Canned Carrot**, More very
reflections on life from the Brummie
comedian, Cara, cuts and life as a
suburban footballer get the Carrot
treatment. (Ceebe)
10.00 **Sportnight**, European Football.
Action from tonight's major fixtures in
the second round of the three
European Cup club competitions.
Commentary by John Innes and
Benny Davies. Rugby League: Ray
Sudley previews Great Britain's
opening test match against Australia at
Wembley on Saturday
11.30 **Film: The Great Escape**
Roadblock (1978) starring Henry Fonda,
Eli Brenner and John Byner. A
truck driver, trying to avoid the finance
company which wishes to repossess his
truck, picks up a load of ex-convicts
and runs off into the wild blue yonder
to escape the law. The real pity is
that the cinema followed him
there and filmed this. Directed by John
Lone 1.00am **Weather**

TV LONDON

6.00 **Home and Away** (r)
6.30 **Thames News** and weather
6.50 **This Is Your Life**, Michael Aspel
opens the red book and emotionally
mugs another unsuspecting worthy
7.20 **Coronation Street**, More life as it
is told by the Fivers Return regulars.
(Ceebe)
7.50 **The Match**, Elton Wesley introduces
live coverage of the UEFA Cup second
round first leg match live from Villa
Park where Aston Villa take on top Italian
club Inter Milan. With commentary
from Brian Moore and Jimmy Greaves
and expert analysis from England
manager Graham Taylor
10.00 **News** at Ten with Sandy Gall and
Therese McDonald, Weather 10.30
Thames News and weather
1.00 **News** at One with John Suchet.
Weather
1.20 **The Body Works**, Presenters Canon
Keating and Neil Buchanan discuss
healthcare issues. Their special
guest is Sally Burton, who reveals her
special secrets for keeping fit
1.50 **A Country Practice**, Australian
drama set in and around a community
health centre 2.20 **Takes the High
Road**, Scottish soap set in a Highland
village
2.50 **Tell the Truth**, Fred Dineage
challenges another celebrity panel to
guess which of the contestants is
telling the truth about their unusual
claims. The guests are John Innes,
Meggie Phelan, Ian Lavender and Sue
Robbie 3.15 **News** headlines 3.25
Thames News headlines 3.25
The Young Doctors, Australian soap
set in a large city hospital
3.55 **Nellie the Elephant**, Animated
adventure 4.00 **Hot Dog** 4.15 **Mike
and Angelo**, Comedy/drama series
starring Tyler Butterworth and Matt
Wright (r) 4.40 **Rolls**, Cartoon Club
5.10 **Blackboard**, Fast-moving quiz
game for children
5.40 **News** with Nicholas Owen, Weather
5.55 **Thames Help**, Jackie Sprockley on
healthly school meals



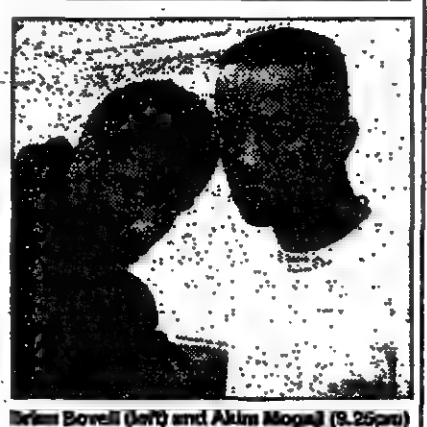
Jellyroll and Hyde President Nixon (10.40pm)

10.40 **Nixon: Triumph**
A C-CHANCE Part two of *Thames*
Television's *Portrait of a President* with
WGBH/Boston ends on the same
sensational note on which the Hollywood
film *All the President's Men* begins -
the tape machines rattling out the first
news of the Watergate break-in. So,
we shall just have to be patient now
we wait until next Wednesday for the
Fall of 1974 which, in terms of the price
that had to be paid for folly, was as

spectacular in its own way as that other
Fall, in Geneva. Tonight, the focus is
on appetite for power and the
disintegration of personality that can
result. It is almost like watching Jekyll
degenerating into Hyde: Nixon the
good guy, who seemed destined to end
up as a footnote to the Kennedy era,
turning into Nixon the bad guy in the
White House, determined
determined to stay there, whatever the
cost.
11.40 **Film: Carrie** (1976) starring Sissy
Spacek, Piper Laurie, John Travolta and
Amy Irving. Carrie White is a shy,
lonely girl, kept in a state of sexual
ignorance by her mother, a religious
fanatic. Her classmates hate her and
she is constantly the target of their
practical jokes and verbal bullying.
Unknown to everyone, Carrie
possesses strange telekinetic powers
and, when she is pushed too far, she
unleashes them with devastating fury at
the school dance. A superior horror
film, that has several surprises, none of
them very nice. Directed by Brian De
Palma. Followed by *News* headlines
1.30 **Very Special Effects**, A behind-the-
scenes look at the tricks used by movie-
makers to turn the unbelievable into
reality
2.15 **Videofashion** with Isaac Mizrahi,
Byrdie, Donna Karan and model Linda
Evangelista
2.40 **America's Top Ten** with Casey
Kasem and Tommy Puett
3.10 **Quiz Night**, Pub and club quiz
hosted by Ross King
3.40 **Books** by My Bookside, Former
Young Adult Editor Edmunds tells
Young Adult about his current
reading matter. Followed by *News*
headlines
4.10 **Windsurf**
4.40 **Film: Yawp** (b/w), A nostalgic
look on what was making the
headlines in October 1940
5.00 **ITN Morning News** with Anne
Lauchlan. Ends at 6.00

BBC2
8.00 **News**
8.15 **Westminster**, A round-up of
yesterday's business in the Lords and
the Commons
9.00 **Daytime on Two**, France and the
French 9.15 **Women's** battle for political
equality 9.45 **A science** drama for
the young 10.00 **A miscellany** for the
very young 11.15 **Part three of
Harden** 11.35 **The role of television in
promoting active learning** 12.10
**Science: Infra-red light and ultrasonic
sound** 12.30 **Equal opportunities** for
the young with disabilities 12.55
Computers in society 1.20 **The
Adventures of Spot** narrated by Paul
Nicholls 1.25 **What's inside?** 1.40
Water-generated energy
2.00 **News** and weather followed by **You
and Me** (r)
2.15 **Racing from Ascot**, Julian Wilson
introduces live coverage of the United
House Construction Stoopchase
(2.30) the EBF Novices Hurdle (3.10);
and the Street Race and Seasonal
Young Champions Qualifier (3.40). The
commentators are Peter O'Sullivan
and Richard Pinnock. Includes news and
weather at 3.00 and 3.50
4.00 **Call My Bluff**, More wit and wisdom
in the words club between Arthur
Marshall and Frank Muir with their
guests, Jen Leeming, Jeffrey Archer,
Moira Anderson and Ian Gentry. The
referee is Robert Robinson (r)
4.30 **Fighting Talk**, Individual views on
how the UK could change for the better.
Professor Alan Enthoven, the
American academic who designed the
blueprint for the NHS reforms,
defends what has been done to the
service in his name

5.00 **A World of Their Own**, Tony Baker
with a report from County Durham on
parents trying to give their autistic
children a better chance than they
would otherwise have had.
Presented by Rosemary Harty (r)
5.30 **Film** 30 with Barry Norman
Includes reviews of *GoodFellas* and *A
Shock to the System* (r)
6.00 **Star Trek: The Next Generation**,
The *Enterprise* crew heads for the planet
Paradise, and Captain Picard and
Co. may be in for a rough time. (Ceebe)
6.50 **DEF** It begins with Denise Enery
Updates 7.00 **Extra**, European magazine
about life on the Continent 7.40
Rapido, Antoine de Caunes continues
to measure the English language as
he presents his fast-moving rock music
show
8.10 **Antares**, More from the investigative
current affairs programme. In *Coveries of
Time*, Australian scientists look into
caves to discover secrets of our climate.
In *A Private War* Martin Stoppard
investigates a new contraceptive pill
which may be safer than those on
offer at the moment, and *Computer
Safety* asks whether we are relying
on computers too much for our own
safety
9.00 **M*A*S*H**, Korean orphans are
invited by the 407th to a Christmas
party (r)
9.25 **Blood Rights**,
A CHOICE: Mike Phillips's book-
telling thriller about an ex-daughter
(Hermione Norris) who conspires
with her young crooks to make it look
as if she has been abducted, injects
some new blood into a conventional
plot. It is mixed blood and, one way
and another, there's a quite a lot of
about in this eventful tale. It flows
through the veins of the young son of



Brian Boveil (left) and Akim Mogaj (right)

the newspaperman (Brian Boveil)
who is hired to find the "abductors", as
well as the father of one of the
crooks he is to find (Akim Mogaj). You
might think that a little mixed blood
goes a long way in any man, and that by
using this dramatic device to link the
hunter with the hunted, there is a danger
that the whole enterprise will end up
seeming too contrived. Whether this
happens or not, we shall just have to
wait to find out, though it must be said
that episode one of this three-part
satellite pack is a considerable
punch. (Ceebe)
10.00 **Columbo**, Detective David
Hawkins, a supporter of the right wing
No Turning Back group, argues for
the abolition of the welfare state
10.30 **Newsnight** with Jeremy Paxton
11.15 **The Late Show**, Arts and media
magazine 11.55 **Weather**
12.00 **Fighting Talk**, See 4.30, Ends at
12.35am

CHANNEL 4

6.00 **The Art of Landscape**, Soothing
music with beautiful images
8.20 **Business Daily**
8.30 **The Channel Four Daily**
9.25 **Schools**
12.00 **The Parliament Programme** with
Sue Cameron
12.30 **Business Daily** presented by
Suzannah Simons
1.00 **Sesame Street**, Educational fun for
pre-school children
2.00 **Film: Valley of the Kings** (1954).
Romantic adventure in which
Egyptologist Robert Taylor is
persuaded by Eleanor Parker to go in
search of a lost tomb to find proof of
a biblical story. Marvellous scenery and
locations, although the story is thin.
Directed by Robert Dinesch
3.40 **The Oprah Winfrey Show**, Oprah
goes more of her guests into airing
their troubles in front of millions.
Couples argue with each other about
having more children.
4.30 **Fifteen-to-One**, Quiz show hosted
by William G. Stewart
5.00 **By Word of Mouth**, Stories from old
and young about how storytelling,
currently enjoying a revival, can
enrich life. (Teletext)
5.30 **Flight over Spain**, Cantabria from
the air. (Teletext)
6.00 **The Wonder Years**, American
comedy series about growing up in the
1970s
6.30 **A Different World**, High school
comedy



Karl Johnson as D.H. Lawrence (8.15pm)

9.15 **Without Walls: Sexual Intercourse**
Began in 1963.
A C-CHANCE: What the title claims it,
of course, nonsense, but only if you read
it biologically. Writer/co-producer
Michael Jones fixes the film in the literary

context of the social-sexual-political-
industrial philosophies of D.H. Lawrence
in general and *Lady Chatterley's
Lover* in particular. Jones puts Penguin
Books back in the dock again to
answer charges of obscenity. It is
a strange reconstruction of the trial
because the prosecution case (albeit
much truncated) is acted, whereas
the defence case is summarised in the
to-camera comments of actual trial
witnesses such as Richard Hoggart and
Dylan Thomas. For the rest of the film,
Karl Johnson stumps about as
Lawrence, expanding his well-known
views about the crying need for a sexual
revolution to overthrow his pet hate,
the machine civilisation
10.15 **Sticky Moments on Tour** with
Julian Clary. The campiest-ever game
show host plays travel tricks on his
unsuspecting audience. This week he is
off to Germany to wish them all luck
for the future
11.00 **Sex Talk**, Mark Chase invites people
to discuss what makes us desire other
people and how desire can be kept alive
11.45 **She-Play: Dancing in the Dark**. This
first in a set of plays written by women is
by Anna Srinivasan, and is about a
relationship between a middle-class
Asian girl and an ex-convict who
admits to being HIV positive.
12.00 **Sid Caesar's Show of Shows** (b/w)
sid Caesar's monologue on the ordeal of
a youngster's first dance
12.30am **Rock Steady**, An
interview in Massachusetts with
J.J. Cale (r). Ends at 1.15

ITV VARIATIONS
ANGLIA
As London except 6.30am-6.50 *Anglia
News* 11.40 *Magnus* 12.45am *Shi Via
News* 1.00 *Curry News* 1.30 *Curry
News* 1.55 *Curry News* 1.55 *Curry News*
6.00 *Parading Day*
BORDER
As London except 1.00pm *Border News*
and *Daughters* 2.20-2.50 *Scottish News* 3.25-
3.50 *Scottish News* 3.50-4.00 *Scottish News*
4.00 *Lookaround* Wednesday 6.30-
6.50 *Lookaround* 11.40 *Alfred Hitchcock
Presents* 12.15am *Tour of Duty* 1.10
On the Edge 2.00 *On the Edge* 2.00-2.15
6.00 *Part* The *Game* in New York
CENTRAL
As London except 3.30am-3.55 *Central
News* 11.40 *Magnum* 12.45am *Shi Via
News* 1.00 *Curry News* 1.30 *Curry
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6.00 *Parading Day*
CHANNEL
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3.45-3.55 *On the Edge* 3.55-4.00 *On the Edge*
6.00 *Part* The *Game* in New York

GRANADA
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6.00 *Part* The *Game* in New York

SATellite

SKY ONE
6.00am *World News* 6.30 *News*
6.00 *The DJ Set* 6.30 *Paul O'Grady*
6.00 *Herby's* 6.30 *The Young Doctors*
11.00 *Shi Via* 12.00 *The Confrontations*
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THE TIMES

BUSINESS

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 24 1990

Executive Editor
David Brewerton● BUSINESS AND FINANCE 25-31
● LAW 31
● SPORT 38-42
● WEEKEND MONEY 39-44Survey shows Britain
'in severe recession'

By COLIN NAKBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

A NATIONWIDE business survey showing the economy in a "severe recession" is certain to fuel concern in Whitehall that the government's counter-inflationary policy is driving the country into full-blown recession.

John Major, the chancellor, has acknowledged the prospect of a pause in growth, as the effects of his squeeze on consumers and companies take effect. But he has rejected shrill warnings from the City, industry and Conservative MPs that government policy is a recipe for recession, defined as two successive quarters of falling output.

The latest quarterly survey by the Association of British

Chambers of Commerce reports "profound gloom." It shows Britain has now entered a deep recession, with domestic orders and deliveries sharply lower, and even the strong export growth seen this year now obliterated.

The third-quarter survey, considered the most extensive ever undertaken, covers 5,951 companies and 1,044,860 employees across industrial and service industries in Britain's 12 economic regions.

The association said British business is "without any question" experiencing a severe recession. Among manufacturing firms, 46 per cent report falling home orders in the third quarter, versus 28 per cent seeing higher orders. The difference, a negative balance of 18 per cent, is unprecedented since the survey started in 1985. Only the Northeast managed to buck the falling orders trend.

The home orders balance was still positive in the first quarter, but deteriorated to minus 4 per cent in the second. The association sees the sharply worsening orders implying a "considerable net contraction" in manufacturing that is only just being picked up in government output data. Coupled with a

negative balance of 11 per cent for home deliveries, after a positive balance of 3 per cent in the second quarter, manufacturing industry is seen to be clearly in recession.

For the first time, the service sector reported more companies with falling home orders and deliveries than increases. The negative balance of 7 per cent followed positive balances of 8 per cent the previous quarter and 18 per cent in the first quarter.

The evidence from 3,000 service sector firms provides a "fairly conclusive indication that the economy as a whole, as opposed to just manufacturing, has now entered recession", the association said.

In his first appearance as chancellor before a business audience, Mr Major bluntly told an ABCC lunch last November that companies would have to export their way out of the tough period ahead. But the survey shows that hopes that the corporate sector is rising to the challenge have evaporated.

Though official September trade figures on Monday showed the smallest monthly deficit since April 1987, they registered a worrying decline of 3 per cent in volume exports between the second

and third quarters, probably reflecting the impact of the stronger pound on exports.

The ABCC said the negative balance of 3 per cent in manufacturing exports orders represents a dramatic swing from the positive balance of 20 per cent in the previous period. It said the figures provide "little hope" of further growth in exports, but do not suggest a marked decline in absolute volumes.

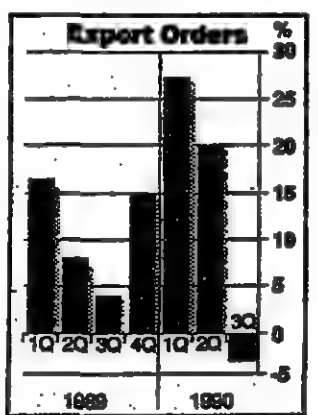
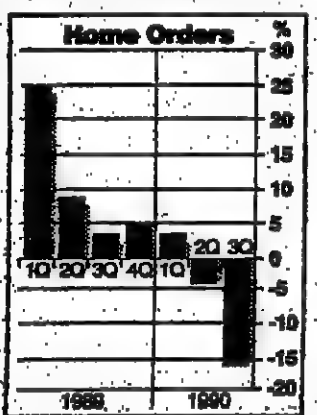
It identified sterling strength as a factor behind the reversal in export growth, which it expects to compound the problems faced by businesses seeking to offset the decline in home demand.

Miles Middleton, president of the association, called the survey results "profoundly worrying". Business is in a deep trough, with domestic and export business, employment and investment all hit. "Relief may be a long time coming and in the meantime both government and the chambers of commerce must do all they can to help businesses to cope," he said.

But the chancellor offered little hope of early help in remarks in the Commons yesterday, stressing further interest cuts would be made only when it was prudent.

The survey was conducted before the base rate was cut to 14 per cent on October 8, but the ABCC believes that the lower cost of borrowing will take a long time to restore business confidence.

No company in Britain can be safe from trouble or collapse, Christopher Morris of Touche Ross, one of the country's leading firms of receivers, said. He listed the three dangers as the economic climate, the environment and fraud, adding this year would see record failures.



Continued, page 27

Caird bid lapses

Severn Trent, the Midlands water utility, was last night allowed to lapse its £60 million bid for Caird Group by the Takeover Panel. Severn Trent pulled out after Caird said it could not meet its profit forecast.

Pennant halted

SHARES in Pennant Properties, the international property development company, were suspended at 11p at the company's request, "pending clarification of the company's financial position". At the suspension price, Pennant is capitalised at about £681,000. Pennant is controlled by Pennant Holdings, the construction group based in Australia.

Shandwick up

SHANDWICK, the world's largest public relations consultancy, increased taxable profits and fee income by 41 per cent, to £20.95 million and £103.2 million respectively, during the year to the end of July. Earnings rose almost 26 per cent to 18p. A final dividend of 2.61p makes 3.5p (1.88p).

Tempest, page 27

Top two sever links with Allied

By MICHAEL TATE
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

SIR MARK Weinberg has severed his remaining links with Allied Dunbar, the financial services arm of BAT Industries. Mike Wilson, Sir Mark's successor as chief executive, and a BAT main board director, is also leaving.

Brian Garraway, deputy chairman of BAT, and credited with a key role in transforming Eagle Star and integrating Farmers Group into the BAT group, takes over as executive chairman. A new chief executive will be sought.

Sir Mark, who is approaching 60, is withdrawing from Allied Dunbar, which, as Hambro Life, he founded in the 1950s. Hambro was acquired by BAT in 1985. Sir Mark has now relinquished the non-executive chairman-ship that he assumed in January 1989 when he gave up his executive responsibilities. Last night, Sir Mark said that he wanted to pursue "other options".

Mr Wilson, aged 46, will remain as chief executive until the end of December. He will then act as consultant to Mr Garraway until the end of July 1991. Allied Dunbar, which has some £8.5 billion under management, and last year topped £1 billion in premium income for the first time, is also losing Keith Carby, its managing director (sales), whose departure was also announced yesterday.

Pessimism follows
McKechie's fall

No optimism in view: Dr Butler, chairman, yesterday "ERM entry will have no significant short-term benefit on the economy and the one point out in interest rates will not significantly help demand."

The British workforce was cut by 10 per cent last year and further cuts are expected this year. Orders levelled out after the period of de-stocking. But Dr Butler said the general level of demand was more likely to continue to fall gently rather than stage any swift recovery.

Michael Ost, the chief executive, said the rate of exchange set at entry to the exchange-rate mechanism did not present any immediate problems and that the group's British factories were competitive with German factories at this rate.

Tempest, page 27

'Confident' Bryant buys land

By JOHATHAN PRYNN

BRYANT Group, the housebuilder in which ECC placed a 29 per cent stake in June, is to raise £39.6 million to finance land purchases through a one-for-four rights issue, its second cash call in four years.

Andrew MacKenzie, the managing director, said the company had been seeing a steady supply of housebuilding land coming on to the market at reasonable prices since February. The company cut back sharply on land purchase expenditure in 1989 from its normal £50-£60 million a year because it believed the market was overpriced, he said.

The funds raised will be used to increase Bryant's existing land holdings in central and southern England and to expand its operations into the north of England. The company has already opened a new regional office in Yorkshire.

Last month, Bryant reported a 61 per cent slump in profits from £51.4 million

to £20.1 million and made a £9 million provision against the value of its land bank.

The funds from the issue, which is being underwritten by Robert Fleming, will initially be used to reduce bank borrowings. Bryant reported year-end on-balance sheet gearing of 15 per cent though this figure is considerably higher if off-balance sheet borrowings are taken into account.

The company currently owns 7,200 plots, representing a five-year land bank, with another 3,400 acres under option. The owned plots are valued at an average £20,000, compared with an estimated current market value of £30,000, said Mr MacKenzie. Two-thirds of the plots were acquired before 1988, the peak year for housebuilding land values. Since then, values are estimated to have fallen by about 30 to 40 per cent.

Chris Bryant, the chairman, last month described the 12 months to end of May as "the most difficult year in our industry I have experienced since

becoming chairman in 1962." Announcing the rights issue, he said: "I believe there will be great opportunities to acquire land at attractive prices to ensure the expansion of our housebuilding operations. I am making this move now because I have great confidence in the future of the housebuilding industry."

The Bryant family is not taking up its rights, reducing the holding of family members and the directors from 22 per cent to 17 per cent.

The new shares are priced at 72p, a 14 per cent discount to the market price and a 22 per cent discount to the theoretical ex-rights price. The ECC share stake was placed at 84p. The company's only previous rights issue, in 1986, was at 45p, since when Bryant shares have outperformed the FT All Share index by 66 per cent. The shares closed at 72.5p.

Analysts welcomed the issue and forecast a stream of cash calls from other property groups looking to purchase low cost land without straining their balance sheets.

Kvaerner to seek
London listingBy ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

NORWAY'S fifth largest company, the Kvaerner ship building to turbines group, which employs 3,000 people in Britain, will apply for a listing on the International Stock Exchange today.

The company, which expects sales to top £1 billion this year, has already announced that it is to take on 250 extra workers at its Kvaerner Govan shipyard on Clydeside.

Kvaerner has a market capitalisation of £585 million. The London listing, for both its voting "free" A shares and non-voting B shares, will be the first outside Oslo. It hopes for a Stockholm listing later.

The company has more than 12,500 employees worldwide. It is best known for its shipping interests, which include the world's largest fleet of medium-sized gas tankers. Its activities also include the construction of high-speed passenger catamarans, hydro-electric turbines, processing equipment and offshore contracting.

It bought the Kvaerner Govan shipyard from British Shipbuilders in 1988 for £6 million. It then had a workforce of 2,000 and no orders.

Today, the yard, Britain's second-largest merchant ship builder after Harland & Wolff in Belfast, has orders for four ships worth £150 million.

It is also increasing its permanent workforce for the first time in 30 years. The extra 250 jobs will take employment to almost 1,900 by early next year. A £26 million investment programme, already under way, is intended to make the yard competitive.

Kvaerner has 12 other subsidiaries in Britain. They include Kvaerner Kincaid Scotland, which builds ships' engines at Greenock; Kvaerner Boving at Rotherham, which makes hydro-power equipment; and CTT (Computerised Industrial Technology), which supplies computerised maintenance systems at Slough, Berkshire.

Drexel 'broke
its own rules'

FROM JOHN DURIE IN NEW YORK

FRED Joseph, the former chief executive of Drexel Burnham Lambert, has told an American federal court that the firm's high yield department violated company rules in its handling of the Storer Communications buyout.

But under cross-examination yesterday, Mr Joseph portrayed a firm that allowed considerable latitude in employee investments and in which employees gained from junk bond issues they handled.

Mr Joseph was giving evidence in the special hearing to consider how long a jail term, if any, Michael Milken, the former high yield division chief, should serve. In April this year, Mr Milken pleaded guilty to six counts of fraud and paid \$600 million in fines and restitutions.

The court is concentrating on the \$2.5 billion leveraged buyout by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts in 1985, which was financed by Drexel.

In the transaction, Drexel had told KKR it would need to offer equity "tickers" to sell

the dead issues but much of the equity ended up in partnerships comprised of Drexel employees, fund managers whose firm had bought the dead issues and a trust for the children of Mr Milken and his brother, Lowell.

Mr Joseph said the firm had a policy that fund managers should not be offered favoured treatment.

In the case of the Storer issue, Mr Joseph said, "I think it violated that rule."

Mr Joseph said that he took a passing interest in the control over the high yield department, leaving the rest to the firm's compliance division and legal counsel. He said Mr Milken had always cleared any personal investments in Drexel deals with his superiors before they were made.

The government is attempting to prove Mr Milken used equity warrants and other issues to bribe fund managers to take other issues that were more difficult to off-load. The case is due to continue tomorrow and should conclude early next week.



Long way to go: Asil Nadir on an earlier mission

Polly Peck
requires
£30m
now, say
banksBy NEIL BENNETT
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

POLLY Peck International has to produce up to £30 million from its deposits in northern Cyprus today or face the cancellation of its debt standstill agreement and the appointment of administrators.

Asil Nadir, the chairman, is returning from Cyprus to host a board meeting at Polly Peck's Berkeley Square headquarters this afternoon. He will then report to the steering committee of ten people which represents the company's creditors.

One of Polly Peck's bankers said the company has to make the payment "or face serious consequences". Mr Nadir, he added, "must have bankers' drafts available or evidence that the funds are immediately available".

He added: "We not only want the money, but proof of where it came from." Sources close to the company were still confident last night that Mr Nadir would return with the necessary funds.

The company is due to make a statement this evening on the success of its emergency fund-raising.

Polly Peck originally agreed to make the payments as part of the conditions on a four-week debt moratorium imposed on October 12.

The funds are part of deposits worth an estimated £70 million in Turkey and northern Cyprus. But the company has since failed to make payments on time due to foreign exchange difficulties and the lack of liquidity in the northern Cypriot banking industry.

The banks' steering committee will also receive an interim report from Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, the accountant, to keep members up to date with the full report it is compiling.

Richard Stone, Coopers' head of corporate finance, cut short his stay in Cyprus to return to London last night.

In another development Polly Peck has agreed to meet holders of its mark-denominated Eurobonds in Frankfurt on November 2.

The company will clarify the status of the DM100 million issue.

Arab Banking Corp-Daus, the trustee, has also promised to outline legal steps it can take to ensure repayment.

Cyprus roots, page 27

STERLING HAS JOINED THE ERM
THE TIME IS RIPE FOR AN
ECU MORTGAGE

MINIMUM LOAN:
ECU EQUIVALENT OF £50,000

INTEREST RATE
11.50%
(APR 12.40%)*

MAXIMUM ADVANCE 50%

SWITCHING FACILITY
INTO STERLING,
AT ANY TIME.
NO CONVERSION FEE

*The APR has been calculated on a 10% margin.
The APR is based on a 10% margin. The APR is based on a 10% margin. The APR is based on a 10% margin.

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THE POUND

US dollar 1.9460 (-0.0035)
German mark 2.9548 (+0.0188)
Exchange index 94.5 (+0.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1654.7 (+21.1)
FT-SE 100 2127.0 (+25.0)
New York Dow Jones 2508.18 (-6.93)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 26298.30 (+227.44)
Closing Prices ... Page 29

Major indices and
major changes Page 31

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Rate 14%
3-month Interbank 13 1/2% 13 1/2%
3-month eligible bills 13 1/2% 13 1/2%
US Prime Rate 10%
Federal Funds 7 1/2%
3-month Treasury Bills 7 25/32%
30-year bonds 9 5/8% 9 5/8%

CURRENCIES

London: New York
£ \$1.9460
£ DM2.9548
£ Sfr2.4938
£ FF4.8887
£ Yen247.73
£ Index 94.5
ECU 10.9742
ECU 1.43743

GOLD

London: Plating
AM \$370.75 on \$371.65
CME \$371.75-372.25 (\$191.00-191.50)
New York:
Comex \$371.70-372.20

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Dec) \$28.30/bbl
Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia £	2.58	2.64
Belgium S	21.70	21.70
Canada C	11.82	11.12
Denmark D	7.35	6.90
France F	3.275	2.962
Germany M	369.00	369.00
Italy L	15.80	14.50
Hong Kong H	1.15	1.12
India Rupee	20.00	20.00
Japan Yen	200.00	200.00
Netherlands G	3.465	3.285
Norway Kr	12.00	11.25
Portugal Esc	200.00	200.00
Spain Ptas	162.50	162.50
Sweden Sw	10.75	10.75
Switzerland Fr	2.000	2.445
Taiwan New	5.400	5.000
USA \$	2.000	2.000
Yugoslavia D	27.50	20.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only
as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different
rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 128.3 (September)

Brussels seeks new powers for control of oil stocks in EC

FROM PETER GUILFORD IN BRUSSELS

SPURRED on by the European Community's sluggish response to the Gulf dispute, Antonio Cardoso e Cunha, European commissioner for energy policy, will push today for new powers giving Brussels the right to order the release of oil stocks and set energy-saving targets for the whole community.

Senhor Cardoso e Cunha will ask fellow commissioners to tighten a 1973 law in order to give the 12 the scope to respond swiftly and in unison when faced with new short-term energy problems.

With commission backing, he would then put the issue before EC energy ministers, who meet in Luxembourg on Monday, although their hasty approval of the measures is considered unlikely.

Officials dismiss as "dis-jointed" the community's current procedures for the use of emergency energy stocks, and argue the case for a stronger role for the Brussels commission. "If we are to become a single community, it makes no sense to keep non-community mechanisms in such a vital area," they said.

Brussels argues such a move will streamline the EC's emergency decision-making with-

out depriving either national governments or the International Energy Agency in Paris of their sovereignty over oil stocks and energy policy. The objective is to cut red tape and increase efficiency, not to over-centralise policy, officials said.

Fearing a hostile response from energy operators, they are equally adamant that the plan would come into effect only to offset a serious shortage of oil supplies and not intervene on the markets. But they confirmed the commission is still studying ways of curbing excessive speculation in the wake of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

In dire emergencies, the directive would give Brussels the sole right to order the release of up to 30 days' worth of the community's overall oil reserves, representing one third of its obligatory stocks under existing EC rules.

The commission would consult national representatives in the process, but would only have to convene EC ministers if it wished to exceed the 30-day limit. Even then, it would only need the consent of a qualified majority of EC governments.

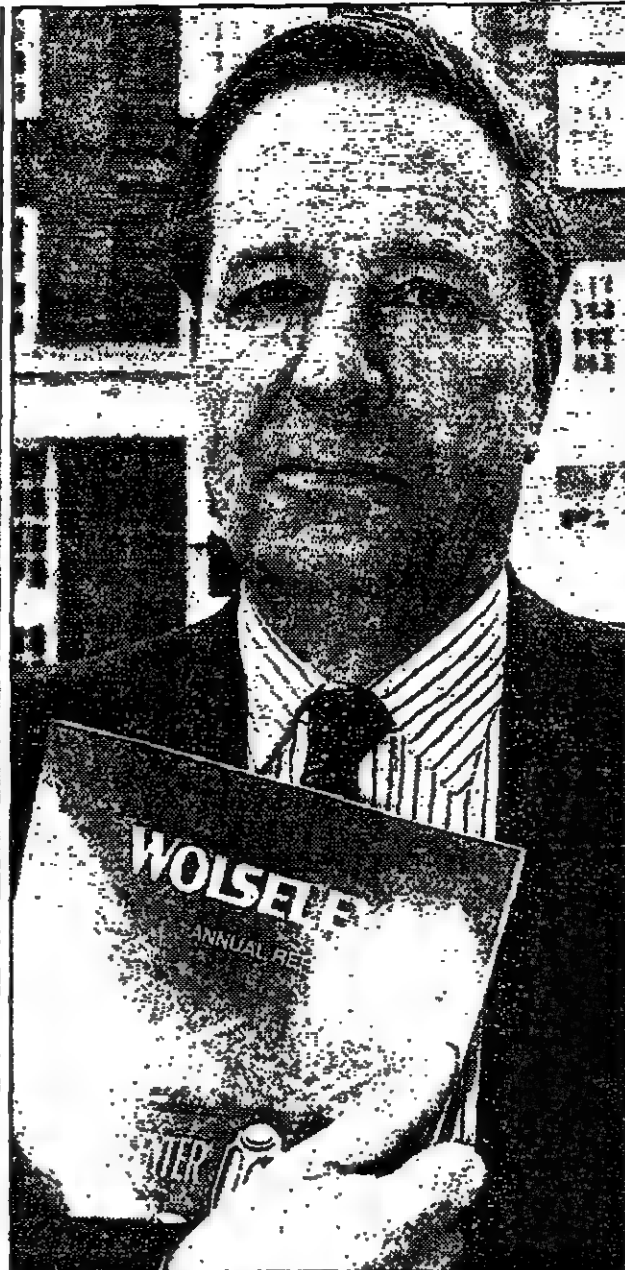
Officials maintain the com-

mission would act only if the IEA foresaw a serious threat to the continuation of world oil supplies. It would then assess the depth of the danger according to its own criteria, and set broad energy-saving targets for no more than three months ahead.

Ministers would be obliged to flesh out the commission's objectives with concrete fuel-saving measures. These could be vetoed by any single member state, although sources said that failure to endorse Brussels' demands could result in court action.

Each member state would also be required to set up its own single body for controlling national oil reserves, which could respond quickly if Brussels called for stocks to be released.

It is believed this would force changes in the Britain, while Germany, France, Denmark and the Netherlands already operate a single system. National bodies would be forced to quote the value of stocks in their control "to promote greater transparency", sources said. Governments would be left to decide whether each national body should actually own, or just control, the country's stocks.



Confident: Jeremy Lancaster of Wolseley yesterday.

Steady Wolseley sounds warning

By OUR CITY STAFF

WOLSELEY, the plumbing and building products distributor, has reported almost unchanged pre-tax profits of £120.7 million (£120.2 million) for the 12 months to end-July, but has given warning of lower profits for this year.

Turnover increased 12 per cent to £1.85 billion, while earnings per share were marginally ahead at 37p. A final dividend of 9p makes 12.1p for the year, a 10 per cent improvement on the previous year.

Jeremy Lancaster, the chairman and managing director, described the results as "exceptional", given the increasingly difficult trading conditions in the United Kingdom and parts of America, particularly southern California.

UK building distribution, which accounted for 37 per cent of profits, reported a 2 per cent increase in profits on sales up 8 per cent. American building distribution was up 20 per cent, while UK manufacturing fell 25 per cent to £24.6 million.

Mr Lancaster said he remained confident about the longer-term prospects for the group "although the current year's trading is bound to be more difficult than for some years past".

Temps, page 27

BUSINESS ROUNDUP Problems delay TSB disposal of Target

TSB Group's disposal of Target Group, its life assurance subsidiary, has been delayed due to wrangling over the value of its life funds and the quality of its sales network. An executive at Hill Samuel, the TSB offshoot which is organising the sale, said the group had hoped for a sale in the early autumn, but was still in discussions with a number of parties.

Hill Samuel has reduced the number of bidders to a handful, but is still arguing over the basis of actuarial valuations of the company. It still hopes to complete the sale before Christmas. The bank paid £227 million for Target in 1987 and is expected to make a loss of up to £100 million on its disposal.

Cambridge Group jumps

CAMBRIDGE Group, the leasing and financial services company based in Dublin, reports a jump in pre-tax profits to £1.96 million (£1.79 million) from £1.23 million in the six months to end-August. Turnover climbed from £166.85 million to £172.1 million. An interim dividend of 10.4p (nil) is being paid on earnings per share of 12.78p (£1.94p).

Barbican up to £1.28m

BARBICAN Holdings, the Third Market industrial property and leisure group, lifted pre-tax profits from £901,000 to £1.28 million in the year to end-June, as turnover surged from £2.72 million to £28.94 million. Interest payments jumped from £353,000 to £1.13 million. Earnings per share rose from 0.05p to 0.1p. Once again, there is no dividend.

Clarke Hooper buys

CLARKE Hooper, the US marketing services group, has expanded its Canadian business with two acquisitions. The company has acquired the Michael Peters Design business in Toronto for Can\$25,000. The business will receive a working capital injection of about Can\$200,000. MDP is a specialist package design consultancy and employs 14 people.

Clarke Hooper has also acquired the Spencer Franchise Group, a Canadian design consultancy in the field of corporate literature, annual reports and brochures, also based in Toronto. Clarke Hooper is paying Can\$165,000, with two payments up to Can\$700,000 depending on future profits.

Li to appeal

RONALD LI, the former chairman of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, has applied to appeal against his conviction for fraud. It could take several months before the Appeal Court opens a hearing into the case. Mr Li, aged 61, was convicted on two corruption charges involving company listings and sentenced to four years in jail last week.

Half-time fall at Densitron

DENSITRON International, the electrical component manufacturer and distributor, suffered a fall in pre-tax profits from £550,000 to £376,000 in the six months to end-June. Turnover increased from £10.4 million to £13.1 million. Earnings per share slipped from 2.00p to 1.13p, although the interim dividend is maintained at 0.70p.

Pressac ahead 19%

IMPROVED exports helped Pressac Holdings, the electrical component group, increase pre-tax profits 19 per cent from £2.25 million to £2.68 million in the year to end-July on turnover down from £32.9 million to £32.4 million. Exports to America, the company's main market, were up by 49 per cent, benefiting from strong growth in the automotive sector.

Operating profits grew by 24 per cent to £3.11 million, although interest costs jumped from £247,000 to £437,000. Earnings stood at 62 per cent with interest covered 7.1 times. Earnings per share rose from 8.06p to 9.79p. The final dividend is 1.65p (1.5p), making an improved total of 2.4p (2p) for the year. Geoff White, chief executive, said that the present order book is strong. Shares firmed 7p to 83p.

'Modest results' for Gatt talks

THE Gatt Uruguay round trade talks are on course to end successfully with modest results, including an agreement on the vexed issue of agricultural trade reform, a negotiator says.

Tran Van-Thinh, the European Commission's chief representative at the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, said the European Community would present a firm trade reform proposal to the Gatt negotiations within about 11 days.

He said that if EC farm and trade ministers failed to agree on a firm proposal at a meeting set for Friday, a subsequent meeting of ministers might be needed next week.

"We will end up with results that are ambitious in their realism," Mr Tran told a conference on the Uruguay round.

He said the Uruguay round, set to end in Brussels in December, would probably free up trade in agriculture, textiles and services, among other areas, and strengthen Gatt rules.

The trade liberalisation section of the agreement would be "reasonably modest", and probably cover a five- to ten-year period, he said.

He predicted Gatt negotiators would agree on farm trade reform, which has been the most contentious issue in the talks. "There will be an agricultural accord," he said.

Unit trust watchdog to close

By LINDSAY COOK

MONEY EDITOR
THE unit trust ombudsman scheme is being closed down. It was announced yesterday, just two years after it was started. The cost of complaints had become "unsustainably high" for the unit trust management companies in membership.

From January, complaints about unit trusts groups which are members of the scheme will be dealt with by the insurance ombudsman, Dr Julian Farrand. The contract of the unit trust ombudsman, Adrian Parsons, had until the end of next June to run.

The future of the unit trust scheme had been under discussion since M&G, the largest group, decided to withdraw from the end of July. The group was expected to pay £20,000 to the scheme in the first year when only two complaints about M&G were referred to the ombudsman. Perpetual and Framlington then said they too were leaving the scheme.

The Insurance Ombudsman Bureau, said the decision was taken because of the "lower-than-expected" number of complaints.

FR Group interim profits down 9%

By JONATHAN PRYNN

CUTS in defence procurement reduced FR Group's pre-tax profits by 9 per cent to £10.8 million in the first half.

The manufacturer of aircraft and electronic equipment, based in Dorset, suffered through the cancellation of an order for components for the eighth batch of Tornado aircraft.

Turnover of the group, where Michael Cobham is chairman, rose 18 per cent to £86.7 million. Earnings fell 11 per cent to 9.6p but the interim dividend is held at 2.25p.

The results "reflect the difficulties which many of the operating companies have experienced as a result of the climate in which the industry has been operating and, in the case of the defence industry, from the considerable delays in the placing of contracts both at home and overseas", the company said.

However, it pointed to a number of contracts awarded in recent weeks including Ministry of Defence and French government orders for Falconet target aircraft. The French contract is the first

overseas sale of Falconet. The company also reported that it has been selected by the French Air Force to supply air-to-air refuelling pods.

Giles Irwin, the finance director, said the three contracts were worth "in excess of £25 million." In the light of these orders and other "significant business opportunities", the company is taking a positive view of its future, "notwithstanding the difficult environment in which the group is operating". Shares lost 5p to 122p.



Cobham: positive view

Boost for thrifts bailout

WASHINGTON
THE US House banking committee has approved \$10 billion in new funding to keep the bailout of the country's savings and loan industry running until the end of next February.

The panel also agreed to let the Resolution Trust Corporation, the agency handling the rescue, use \$18.8 billion to expand its borrowing reserves. At the same time, the House agreed that the RTC should pay only insured deposits up to \$100,000 and should not cover uninsured deposits.

Earlier this month, the Treasury requested up to \$57 billion to keep the RTC going over the next 12 months. The RTC was granted \$50 billion for the clean-up in the 1990 fiscal year, but most of this money will be used by the end of the year.

Henry Gonzalez, the banking committee chairman, said Nicholas Brady, the Treasury secretary, had declined an invitation to appear before the committee last week.

Mr Gonzalez said the committee should limit funding until Mr Brady and other administration officials defended their request. (Reuters)

Profits plunge at Japanese brokers

TOKYO
HIGHER interest rates and a sharp drop in share prices sent the earnings of Japan's four main brokers plunging in the six months to September 30. Katsuhiko Sasajima, industry analyst at the Nikko Research Centre, said: "The figures are as expected - bad. It is distressing."

Net profit plunged an average of 60.13 per cent and current profit fell an average of 65.75 per cent for Nomura Securities, Nikko Securities, Daiwa Securities, and Yamaichi Securities, figures from the companies showed yesterday.

Current profit, before extraordinary items and tax, is the most commonly watched indicator of performance. Roger Gough, industry analyst at Baring Securities (Japan), said the cause of the declines were a 35 per cent fall in the value of the Tokyo stock market's Nikkei share index this year and a sharp rise in interest rates.

The yield on the benchmark Japanese bond rose from about 7 per cent in early May to as high as 8.7 per cent at the end of September.

Both factors sharply re-

duced trading volume on Japan's stock and bond markets, and as a result, brokerage revenues.

Nomura Securities, the world's biggest broker, posted parent net profit of ¥55.53 billion (£224.45 million) in the six months to September 30, compared with ¥107.87 billion in the same period a year earlier.

Nikko Securities had a net profit of ¥20.25 billion against ¥63.52 billion.

"I don't think they can do much better in the second half," said Robert Zielinski, financial analyst at Jardine Fleming Securities.

The overall market share of the four brokers, the "stock market's pillars of support", has gradually been eroded, mostly because of financial deregulation. However, although the pillars may be thinner, they are not crumbling, analysts said.

"Look at the level of profits they're reporting. Any other securities company in the world would be happy," Mr Zielinski said.

"They are still the pillars of the stock market, just making less money." (Reuters)

Plastiseal decline caused by £172,000 exceptional charge

By PHILIP PANGALOS

PLASTISEAL, the maker and installer of windows and doors, which is quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, suffered a fall in pre-tax profits from £526,000 to £456,000 in the half year to end-July, as a result of exceptional costs.

Despite tougher trading conditions, operating profits climbed from £526,000 to £628,000. However, there was an exceptional charge of £172,000, made up of a loss of £111,000, caused by the insolvency of a main contractor, and rationalisation costs of £61,000.

Howard Mantian, joint chairman and chief executive, said: "We recognised that the market was going to be thin, so we put more people on the road. It was a cheaper way to get a bigger market share." As a result, group turnover advanced from £7.66 million to £11 million.

Earnings per share slipped



Optimistic: Howard Mantian, right, and Mike Price

from 4.5p to 3.7p, but there is a first-time interim dividend of 1.5p. Alex Abercrombie, the finance director, said gearing was at 46 per cent.

Mike Price, the joint chairman, said that some operations would benefit as the

company had received "the British Standard Kitemark for manufacture recently."

Mr Mantian added that the company had received £3 million of orders in the last seven days. The shares held at 71p.

BANK OF SCOTLAND INTEREST RATE

Bank of Scotland announces the following changes in interest rates effective from 1st November 1990:

Home Loan Rate	14.8% per annum
Stabilised Charging Rate	14.95% per annum

Bank of Scotland, Head Office, The Mound, Edinburgh EH1 1YZ



BP in joint Russian oil venture

A BRITISH-NORWEGIAN partnership has signed a letter of intent with the Soviet Union to establish a joint venture for offshore oil drilling in the Caspian Sea near Baku.

British Petroleum and Norway's Statoil signed the agreement with an Azerbaijani oil production enterprise called Caspomeftegaz, said Richard Jones, BP's chief Moscow representative.

BP and Statoil are the first Western companies to take part in developing Baku oil fields, and many more are likely to follow as they seek substitutes for Gulf oil supplies. The Soviet Union is also looking for ways to increase flagging oil production while world prices are high.

According to Mr Jones, the Russian oil and gas ministry has asked a group of Western companies to submit plans by the end of this week for developing Azerbaijani oil. (Reuters)

SHORT-SIGHTED BUSINESS PEOPLE FAIL TO SEE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BOTTOM LINE.

COMMENT

NOTES OF THE SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF TRADE

the 1990s, the number of people in the United States who are 65 years of age or older is projected to increase from 20 million to 35 million, and the number of people 75 years of age or older is projected to increase from 10 million to 15 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1997). The number of people 85 years of age or older is projected to increase from 2 million to 4 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1997). The number of people 90 years of age or older is projected to increase from 500,000 to 1 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1997). The number of people 95 years of age or older is projected to increase from 100,000 to 200,000 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1997). The number of people 100 years of age or older is projected to increase from 10,000 to 20,000 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1997).

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 277: 1033-1036.

هذه نسخة الأصل

Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Macro 4	Electronics	
2	Cater Allen	Electronics	
3	By Land (ns)	Property	
4	Remora (ns)	Industrial L-R	
5	Reed Int (ns)	Newspapers-Pub	
6	Granada (ns)	Industrial S-Z	
7	Tate & Lyle	Food	
8	CHE	Building Roads	
9	Chesfield	Property	
10	Stanbury J (ns)	Food	
11	Marley	Building Roads	
12	Yorkshire Water	Water	
13	Lloyds (ns)	Bank/Discount	
14	Wardle Stearns Plc	Chemicals-Plas	
15	Promec	Electronics	
16	First Tech	Electronics	
17	Nat West (ns)	Bank/Discount	
18	Allied Irish	Bank/Discount	
19	Blue Circle (ns)	Building Roads	
20	Robson Hill	Industrial A-D	
21	Robson Hill	Chemicals-Plas	
22	Granger	Property	
23	Cashbury-Schep (ns)	Food	
24	Anglian Water	Water	
25	Stanwick	Water/Prop-Adv	
26	Telford Group	Building Roads	
27	Ayrshire Metal	Industrial A-D	
28	Shell (ns)	Oil/Gas	
29	T & N (ns)	Industrial S-Z	
30	Capital Radio	Leisure	
31	Morland	Electronics	
32	Pearson (ns)	Newspapers-Pub	
33	Wagon Ind	Industrial S-Z	
34	Microfilm Repro	Electronics	
35	United British	Transport	
36	United Newspapers (ns)	Newspapers-Pub	
37	Thos	Property	
38	South Island (ns)	Property	
39	Anglo (ns)	Food	
40	General Motor	Motor/Aircraft	
41	Johnson Matthey	Industrial S-Z	
42	Traklar H (ns)	Industrial S-Z	
43	Unilever (ns)	Industrial S-Z	
44	Mervale Moore	Property	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUNDAY

Two readers shared yesterday's Portfolio Platinum prize of £2,000. They are Mrs Olga Defenias of Kensington High Street, London, and Mrs B.M. Harvey of Dunston, Staffordshire.

BRITISH FUNDS

1990	High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	Vol
SHORTS (Under Five Years)						
100%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
90%	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	0.00	0.00
80%	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
70%	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
60%	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
50%	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
40%	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
30%	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.00	0.00
20%	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
10%	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
0%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1990	High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	Vol
FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS						
100%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
90%	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	0.00	0.00
80%	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
70%	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
60%	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
50%	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
40%	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
30%	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.00	0.00
20%	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
10%	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
0%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1990	High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	Vol
OVER FIFTEEN YEARS						
100%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
90%	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	0.00	0.00
80%	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
70%	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
60%	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
50%	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
40%	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
30%	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.00	0.00
20%	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
10%	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
0%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1990	High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	Vol
UNDATED						
100%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
90%	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	0.00	0.00
80%	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
70%	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
60%	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
50%	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
40%	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
30%	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.00	0.00
20%	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
10%	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
0%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1990	High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	Vol
INDEX-LINKED						
100%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
90%	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	0.00	0.00
80%	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
70%	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
60%	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
50%	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
40%	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
30%	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.00	0.00
20%	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
10%	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
0%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1990	High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	Vol
BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP						
100%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
90%	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	0.00	0.00
80%	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
70%	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
60%	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
50%	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
40%	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
30%	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.00	0.00
20%	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
10%	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
0%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1990	High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	Vol
ELECTRICALS						
100%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
90%	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	0.00	0.00
80%	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
70%	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
60%	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
50%	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
40%	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
30%	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.00	0.00
20%	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
10%	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
0%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Most sectors firmer

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began October 22. Dealings end November 2. Settlement day November 12. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (ns) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 31).

1990	High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	Vol
BREWERIES						
100%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
90%	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	0.00	0.00
80%	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
70%	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
60%	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
50%	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
40%	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
30%	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.00	0.00
20%	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
10%	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
0%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1990	High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	Vol
BUILDING, ROADS						
100%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
90%	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	0.00	0.00
80%	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
70%	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
60%	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
50%	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
40%	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
30%	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.00	0.00
20%	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
10%	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
0%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1990	High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	Vol
FINANCE, LAND						
100%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
90%	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	0.00	0.00
80%	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
70%	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
60%	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
50%	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
40%	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
30%	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.00	0.00
20%	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
10%	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
0%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1990	High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	Vol
FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
100%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
90%	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	0.00	0.00
80%	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
70%	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
60%	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00</

Debt rescheduling revives share price at News Corp

The privatisation of Banco Português do Atlântico will form a large part of that figure.

"We aim to replace the whole or a substantial part of our short-term debt with long-term debt," he said.



to win approval. News Corp's net profit fell sharply last year due to losses at the fledgling Sky Television network and the cost of an eight-month pilots' dispute in Australia. In London, News Corp's shares rose 20p to 243p. (Reuters)

...to be released in the next few days.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

[illegible]

Index	Value	Daily change (%)	Yearly change (%)	Daily change (%)	Yearly change (%)	Daily change (US\$)
The World (free)	112.9	0.3	-30.2	0.8	-21.8	0.1
EAPE (free)	105.6	0.3	-32.1	0.8	-21.8	0.1
Europe	106.7	0.3	-32.1	0.8	-27.6	0.1
Europe (free)	617.3	1.5	-18.9	1.8	-27.4	1.3
Asia (free)	133.4	0.6	-18.4	1.3	-15.2	1.4
North America (free)	356.6	0.1	-26.3	-0.1	-10.9	-0.1
Nordic (free)	1193.3	0.6	-13.0	0.7	-16.6	0.4
Pacific (free)	199.4	0.5	-25.2	0.7	-8.6	0.4
Pacific	2396.8	-0.5	-39.8	-0.1	-34.8	-0.7
Far East	3478.4	-0.6	-39.9	-0.2	-35.6	-0.8
Australia	242.4	1.4	-30.2	1.8	-14.4	1.2
Austria	1400.8	1.9	-5.7	2.1	2.2	1.7
Belgium	725.5	1.5	-26.3	1.5	-21.9	1.3
Denmark	390.0	0.5	-19.1	1.1	-16.8	0.5
Germany	1185.0	0.9	-10.0	1.0	-1.5	0.7
Finland	63.8	-0.5	-44.8	-0.1	-60.6	-0.7
(free)	82.8	-0.7	-44.4	-0.3	-40.2	-0.9
France	516.3	1.7	-23.6	1.8	-19.1	1.5
Germany	725.7	2.4	-20.9	2.6	-14.3	2.2
Hong Kong	1974.5	2.8	-11.0	2.6	7.2	2.6
Italy	263.3	2.2	-26.0	2.3	-19.9	2.0
Japan	3664.0	-0.8	-40.5	-0.3	-38.6	-1.0
Netherlands	748.3	1.7	-20.9	1.8	-14.4	1.5
New Zealand	65.9	0.5	-36.0	0.7	-24.0	0.3
Norway	1249.8	0.1	-5.9	0.7	0.6	-0.1
(free)	396.2	0.2	-14.1	0.1	2.6	0.1
Singapore	1470.3	2.9	-68.3	3.0	-19.9	2.7
Spain/Malay	170.8	2.3	-25.3	2.2	-21.6	2.1
Sweden	1267.0	0.7	-27.8	0.8	-20.9	0.6
(free)	167.2	0.7	-22.0	0.7	-15.4	0.5
Switzerland	734.4	1.0	-17.3	1.0	-17.2	0.8
Switzerland (free)	114.8	1.1	-17.8	1.1	-17.5	0.9
UK	631.0	1.1	-12.5	1.1	-12.5	0.9
USA	359.2	0.1	-25.7	-0.1	-10.2	-0.1

EQUITIES			
Adventure Resources	37	Pelican Gp	38
Castle Cairn (Eop)	91-1	Process Ind	91-11
Castle Creek	34-1	Sutton Healthcare	85
Charmco Int'l Trst (100p)	38-1	St James Place	85
COLT Trst	41	Stratler Tr	91
CPAC Jvnt Trst	38	Strand Financial	215
Fraser Prost	175	Tru Earth	93
Financing Euro Tr	72-1	Ute Energy	114
French Prop Trst	74-2	Ute Livestock	110
Grain Ridge	120	Wig Toys Corp	180-2
Golden Vale	40		
Invergorange	132-4	See main listing for Water shares	
Leasing La New	101		
Leisure	101		
MMI	22	RIGHTS ISSUES	
M & W P/g	75	ATA Sken N/P	1
Midvale Capital	824	MTM N/P	1
Midland Radio	87	Sincier (Wm) N/P	3
North Investors	95	Sycamore N/P	25
Paranorwood	97	Wyeview N/P	4
Perpetual	95-2		
		<i>(Issue price in brackets)</i>	

NRBS:		New York:	
NRAC Group	527p (+120)	Dow Jones	2509.18 (-9.9%)
Palcat Elect	1627p (+107p)	S&P Composite	314.33 (-0.43%)
Nechem	4527p (+10)	Tokyo:	
Wellcome	5077p (+150)	Nikkei Average	25298.30 (+227.44)
Sarcaya	3717p (+105)	Hong Kong	3061.23 (+65.67)
Grand Mt	253p (+120)	Amsterdam:	
Businesses	7414p (+10)	CBS Tendency	98.4 (+1.8)
Highland Diet	243p (+11)	Sydney: AO	1389.1 (+18.5)
CRH	2347p (+8)	Frankfurt: DAX	1514.94 (+39.63)
Botheysa	5377p (+250)	Bombay:	
Alisco	7917p (+220)	General	5225.96 (+86.33)
North Focus	7427p (+120)	Paris: CAC	435.90 (+0.25)
Liberty Bemo	505p (+150)	Zurich: S&K Gen	508.6 (+3.2)
Meridian	435p (+20p)	London:	
ALL:		FT: AllShare	1025.74 (+10.81)
ETC:		FT: "500"	1132.69 (+11.47)
Gold & Wireless	4197p (-100)	FT: Gold Mines	199.0 (+0.6)
Cable	3477p (-100)	FT: Foxtel interest	88.89 (+0.06)
Telecoms & Dandy	100p (-100)	FT: Govt Secs	79.67 (+0.11)
Ysa Wmbledon	80p (-25p)	SEAO Value	376.0m
		USM (Datastream)	105.94 (+0.83)

	Vol '00		Vol '00		Vol '00		Vol '00
AOT	382	CU	692	Lorrie	743	Siege	1,15
Abbey Neil	2,147	Cookson	5,228	Lucas	3,676	Slaugh	16
Alto-Lyons	2,626	Courtsaulds	310	Margawer	2,033	Smith & N	1,76
Amstrad	1,834	Dagney	398	MBS	8,384	Smith Beach	170
Angelo	1,596	Dalrymple	309	McCallum CM	2	Do Loe	2
Angus	ECC	ECC	126	MB Group	236	Smith WH	26
ASDA	4,383	Enterprise	739	MFCP	686	Smiths Ind	39
Aspinall	136	Fairweather	5,599	Nash	1,897	Stewart	1,69
Argyll	5,040	Fisons	2,108	Nest West	1,897	Stan Chan	3,48
BAB	1,317	PNG	388	Nest	621	Stornell	1,12
BET	198	Gem Acc	2,718	Hill Food	629	Sun Alene	1,44
BIB	1,066	GEM	2,718	HL	1,020	Sun Lin	2
BAT	1,516	Glasco	3,136	Pension	1,202	T & N	78
Barclays	1,149	Glynned	699	Pikington	1,821	TI Group	36
Bass	97	Granda	2,685	Pony Fract	1,011	Tobias	69
BBC	307	Grant Met	2,685	Racal	771	Ten & Lyle	1,69
Bersid Int	908	GUS A	8	Racal	771	Taylor Wood	1,69
BDC	823	GRE	374	Rack Tele	1,121	TGS	3,09
Bentley	1,000	GRI	578	Rails	1,121	TGS	3,09
Bore	1,738	Gunnery	574	Rail	1,121	Thomas W	1,37
Bosch	1,456	Hamm A	388	R&C	208	Thom EMil	30
BPS	770	Heron	3,261	Reed	1,945	Tratiger	69
Br Aero	943	De Vito	185	Reed	1,945	TRF	2,14
Br Airways	9,245	H & C	821	Reno	2,081	Ultramar	88
Br Gas	4,512	Newcast	229	RMC Op	545	Umaga	232
Br Land	1,682	Hewlett	1,182	RPT	1,182	Unimod	1,06
Br Natl	5,085	JMI	1,182	Royce	3,608	Unimod	1,06
Br Steel	8,726	KAC	3,101	Rottem B	182	Univ News	2,1
Br Telecom	3,241	Inchope	341	Royal Bank	4,026	Welcome	2,43
Bull	1,323	Ipswich	1,752	S&S	545	Wellcome	2,43
Burnish Cast	948	Lancast	2,051	Sanyal	1,402	Westpac	196
Burton	7,893	Lectroline	1,255	Sartori	1,402	Whitford	70
C&W	4,662	Land Sec	1,91	S&S & N	545	High Waste	1,9
Cadbury	8,314	L&G	248	S&S	1,402	Wills	1,13
Calder	748	L&G	248	Seagrove	1,002	Wilke Cor	1,32
Carnon	684	Lloyd	2,867	Sven Tmt	438	Wemyg G	381
Cash & Co	1,333	Lyons	1,333				

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
October 15	October 28	January 24	February 4

Call options were taken out on: 23/10/80 Aberlyle, Amstrad, Applied Holographics, Bunton Group, Davy Corp, M.L. Labs, Tusker.

Commission of the European Communities, under articles 26, 95 and 5 of the Treaty, in order to ensure the functioning of the internal market and to avoid any distortion of competition. However, in other member states, the existence of a temporary effect, pursuant to article 76. Without prejudice to the fact that, in an increase in transport costs, it could not be ruled out that the Commission supported

The Commission, supported by the interveners, had established the existence of serious and irreparable harm.

The Federal Republic maintained that granting the interim measures applied for would be insufficiently irreparable damage, consisting in the loss of income from taxes which it could not levy during the course of the main proceedings and the risk to the economic survival of German tax transporters.

It had not been demonstrated that the measures introduced would be imposed by significant developments, in such a manner and situation which were of a nature such as to justify a change in the behaviour of the German authorities.

With regard to the damage consisting of tax which would not be received and could not be repaid, the Commission was not sufficient to point out that the tax had never existed in the past and that it might therefore be excluded that the alleged ID would seriously effect the public finance of the FDR.

With regard to the threat to the economic survival of German carriers, following their deterioration in their competitive position, it did not appear obvious, at first sight, that in the

The invoice submitted by In its judgement the European economic activities of producers shipping undertaking would re-operation of loading on board following months.

With regard to the special argument of the German Government relating to the effect on the environment, it had not been established with sufficient certainty that the exemption of the disputed tax to carriers from other member states was more likely to lead to transfers of road traffic to rail and water transport than of parts of the transport services of other member states to German carriers.

In those circumstances, the condition relating to urgency was satisfied.

The Federal Republic's application that, in the event of interim measures being granted, the Commission would be required to provide a guarantee of 150,000,000 DM was rejected.

On those grounds the Court ordered:

1 The Federal Republic of Germany was to suspend, pending delivery of the judgment, the main proceedings, the levying on vehicles registered in other member states of the road tax provided for by the law relating to taxes on the use of federal roads and motorways and heavy goods vehicles of April 30, 1990.

071-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

071-481 4481

GERMAN/ENGLISH

You need fluent spoken and written German as PA to the F.D. at an oil company in the West End. Flexible, fast-thinking and numerate, you can set up systems from scratch and have good English shorthand. Age 25-35, excellent salary package.

Call 071 439 7001 West End
071 377 2666 City

SECRETARIES PLUS

£15,000

FRENCH + ADMIN

Not a secretarial role, thank goodness - but one where you provide total administrative support to the underlying team. Your title is Admin Assistant and encompasses data entry and preparation of monthly management reports. A' levels, numeracy, pc skills and fluent French and English are required - initial training is in Paris. Ultra modern offices in EC3.

Call 071 377 2666 City
071 439 7001 West End

SECRETARIES PLUS

W.10, £17-18,000

+ 23 days holidays + share options

Cut the commuting - join this major plc as senior secretary to the Finance Director. He is late 30's, hardworking but good fun, we are told. He has been admin so it's all yours - the other 50% is the usual financial/secretarial support. You are 25+, have some financial experience and want more information!

Call 071 439 7001 West End
071 377 2666 City

SECRETARIES PLUS

SECRETARY

for least 6 Occupational Psychologists

W1
£12,300 plus bonus

Based at Portland Place, you will join a team of Occupational Psychologists and provide them with full secretarial and administrative support.

You should have three to four years' secretarial experience, good client liaison skills and a knowledge of word processing.

In return we offer a salary of £12,300 plus bonus and other benefits. Please send your full c.v., with covering letter, to The Personnel Department, Ashridge Management College, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 1NS.

Ashridge

SECRETARY

£18,000

A terrific career chance as PA to a vibrant chief exec in a city (excl. travel) consultancy. Excellent travel to arrange (languages exp. Spanish would help) and correspondence to prepare, substantial admin responsibility in addition. Commitment will be well appreciated. Check it out. Phone 071-434 0038 if you like a challenge.

Search Hedge

LONDON
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
TELEPHONE (071) 434 0038 FAX: (071) 734 2824

STRONG PA

£20,000

A new post with communications company where you will lead a team of secretaries. A strong character needed for this challenging role but a great job for a good organizer. Please apply in this brand new division. Highly confidential. Phone 071-434 0038 if you are.

Search Hedge

LONDON
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
TELEPHONE (071) 434 0038 FAX: (071) 734 2824

CITY CHIEF'S PA

£18,000

A terrific career chance as PA to a vibrant chief exec in a city (excl. travel) consultancy. Excellent travel to arrange (languages exp. Spanish would help) and correspondence to prepare, substantial admin responsibility in addition. Commitment will be well appreciated. Check it out. Phone 071-434 0038 if you like a challenge.

Search Hedge

LONDON
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
TELEPHONE (071) 434 0038 FAX: (071) 734 2824

PARIS MATCH

£15,000 + benefits

Vous-avez-vous à Paris? You'll need lots of energy helping three brilliant bankers set up a corporate finance department in Paris for a leading American investment bank. You'll have 4 weeks in the London office learning the ropes before crossing the channel and getting the new team up and running. The Paris office is small but busy with the emphasis firmly on teamwork. Age mid-20s, excellent French, written and spoken (English mother tongue) and fast typing/WP.

Please telephone Nicolette Agnew on 071-434 4512.

Crone Corkill

Multilingual

MATURE (25+).

Intelligent

Secretarial Assistant

required.

As team of busy engineers in modern offices near Baker Street tube. Salary £14,000 plus bonus.

Requirements: Flexibility and reliability 60 wpm typewriting 80 wpm shorthand. Wordprocessing experience. French preferable.

In the first instance write only, with CV to:

K. Bates
Cameron Taylor Partners
25 Leeson Place
London NW1 1JJ

Previous applicants need not apply. No Agencies.

MARKETING

£14,000

One of the job MD's of this young, hard working and dynamic company is looking for a like-minded PA.

The marketing division is just one of the specialist areas in which this blue chip communications company is involved. In this uniquely young environment, you will find yourself an indispensable part of the team, working closely with him on new business pitches, various client accounts and the day-to-day running of the company.

Your dedication and commitment, good skills and lively personality will be well rewarded with unparalleled opportunities in this expanding company.

Age 22-26 5'6" to 5'10"
Rec. Card 071 491 3848

BI-LINGUAL PA

£16,000

French Chief Executive of English bank leader in W1 needs a well presented, spoken and skilled (min 100WPM) PA. See 071-434 0038 if you are interested and can cope with pressure. FLUENT French and English, shorthand, fast typing a bonus.

Call Shan on 071-287 2844.

Middleton Jeffers

RECRUITMENT LIMITED

Secretary to Partner
Are You Ready for a Challenge?

£16,000

A rare one-to-one vacancy has arisen in our London Bridge Office for a skilled, experienced and confident secretary to a partner in our Audit Services Department.

The partner is often away from the office leaving you to handle queries and deal with important clients in person and on the telephone.

You should have shorthand (100 wpm) and WP experience (WordPerfect preferred - cross training available). You will need a flexible approach to work as occasional late working will be expected and you may be asked to provide support for others in the department from time to time. Ideally you should have some years of experience working at director level in a professional firm, an excellent command of English and the discretion to deal with information of a highly confidential nature. You must also be committed to providing high standards of service to clients.

In addition to our dynamic working atmosphere, you will benefit from regular pay reviews, paid overtime, season ticket loan, subsidised staff restaurant, recreational facilities including our own swimming pool and squash courts and the job security offered by a large and very reputable firm.

Please write, enclosing your CV and quoting reference MT12410.

Eric Michels, Practice Support Personnel Department,

Price Waterhouse (Level 24), 32 London Bridge Street,

London SE1 9ST.

(Strictly No Agencies)

Price Waterhouse

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Opportunity to get involved, learn and develop an administrative role.

P.A./SECRETARY TO VICE PRESIDENT

LONDON EC3

C.£15,500 WITH REVIEW (MORTGAGE SUBSIDY)

LEADING INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY

Applications are invited from graduates with good command of typing and word processing skills with a minimum of two years working at director level in an international company (European languages an asset). Responsible for Marie Underwriting in Europe the Vice President has a busy schedule requiring total secretarial and administrative support. There will be considerable liaison with overseas offices and co-ordination of international and UK meetings, including minute-taking. The V.P. is keen to delegate and the successful applicant should possess the initiative to compose own letters and carry out basic research and analysis. Candidates must have good organisational ability, a mature, serene attitude and be able to promote and work under pressure. Initial remuneration up to £15,500 with review, mortgage subsidy after two years or immediately, private health cover, non-compulsory pension, L.V's and season ticket loan. Applications in strict confidence under reference PAV774/T1 to the Managing Director.

DAMPSON-JONSTON EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES LIMITED (RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS),
3 LONDON WALL BUILDINGS, LONDON WALL, LONDON EC2N 3JF (AND KINGSBRIDGE OFFICE),
TELEPHONE 071-438 9887 OR 071-388 3668. TELEX 967274. FAX: 071-236 9881

ASCOT

Attractive salary & car

ILI is a dynamic, well established (we're 40), rapidly expanding publishing, book distribution and property company.

Our 2 directors (good delegators) need an intelligent 'hands on' Secretary/Manager (30-50) capable of making commercial decisions. You will have excellent administrative and leadership qualities. You will be responsible for 10 staff and £12M rental income. You should feel you have good communication abilities, tact and diplomacy as well as impeccable shorthand/typing.

To the right person (a graduate) we can offer an excellent career and an exciting future in an outstanding environment.

(If you live in East Berks, why travel to the City, or equally in West London, why not counter-commute?)

To find our more in strictest confidence, send your CV to the MD, ILI, Index House, Ascot, Berks SL5 7EU.

RECEPTIONISTS

If you are a responsible, well presented, go-getter looking for a career where we have the job for you. Several of our dynamic clients have PUBLISHING in TV PRODUCTION are looking for representatives with a difference. See if you have great typing and are looking for something varied and exciting that will put you on the ladder to success call us now.

071-437 2277

JUDY FISHER

ANNOCLIFFS

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TV PRODUCTION

Calling stations - making scripts - organising TV crews - they will see the scene of your responsibilities working for three major producers in a well known production company. If you are young and fit, with fast typing, bags of initiative and an outgoing personality that craves, fun then would like to meet you.

071-437 2277

JUDY FISHER

ANNOCLIFFS

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ARTS

The lucky professional company and a well equipped, modern office to work from. The company has the greatest chance of success in the market. A very professional atmosphere, excellent, good stress with fast response time. A high level of confidentiality and the salary is there as you see it. The reward will be waiting for you.

071-437 2277

JUDY FISHER

ANNOCLIFFS

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Hot Property

PA, W1 - £18K

Are you seeking a challenge? Our client, a successful property company, offers an exceptional opening for a self-sufficient, professional PA. You will play a right hand role to their charming, demanding Chairman, becoming totally involved in all aspects of his work and life. As a lynchpin to the company, you will provide full admin support, co-ordinate diaries and social events, liaise with clients, and take on as much as you can handle. Beautiful offices and a small, exciting team environment. Excellent presentation and accurate skills (80/90) required. Computer literacy essential. Interested? Call 071-495 5787.

GORDON-YATES

Recruitment Consultants
to the Communications Industry

Designer Package

Secretary - £15K

Wonderful opportunity to join this young, friendly and very successful product design/graphics company based in Kings Cross. They seek an outgoing, level-headed secretary to work alongside their business development Director and his small team. You will handle correspondence, co-ordinate travel arrangements and diaries, liaise with clients and hold the fort in their absence. Beautiful offices and a relaxed, sociable yet exciting environment. A level education requested. Accurate skills (80wpm) essential. Shorthand and a foreign language useful. Socially confident? Excellent organisational skills? Call 071-400 1232.

Recruitment Consultants
to the Communications Industry

THE WORK SHOP

Team Spirit?

Secretary, EC2 - £15K

A confident, on-the-ball individual is sought by our client, a successful, family-run US financial company. Now established in London and about to take on Europe, they have a challenging opening for a self-assured, self-motivated secretary. As part of a friendly, dedicated team, you will take on general admin, some publicity/marketing, client liaison and basic book-keeping. This is a lovely, energetic environment where your high standards and commitment will be well rewarded. A level education requested. Excellent skills (80/65)? Numeracy? Good presentation? For details call 071-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Career Opportunities for Secretaries in the City

We are retained by five of the most successful city companies to recruit bright, young secretaries for their expanding businesses. Currently the positions on offer are:

● Computer Secretary
British Bank

● Marketing Assistant/Secretary
Spanish/Italian

● PA/Money Markets
Merchant Bank

● Watching Secretary
British Stockbrokers

● PA French Desk
Corporate Finance
Casualty Wharf

Candidates in their early 20's will be career orientated and anxious for responsibility. Premium salaries are offered for good skills (80-90) although good personality and presentation are also important.

The following superb benefits package is available:

● Mortgage subsidy worth min £3,000

● Young, successful environment

● 3 main stations

● Sports and Social Club

● Internal Promotion

Interviews are by arrangement with Marianne Hope starting today for two weeks. Call 071-872 8887

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

MacBlain Nash

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SECRETARY/ASSISTANT

Our client, a successful company, is looking for a young and willing secretary to assist the Chairman and his PA. On a daily basis you'll take shorthand dictation from the Chairman, organise his meetings and field his calls. There's lots of advice to get your feet into - company files, cars and social occasions. A sense of humour and skills of 80/60 essential. Please call Elizabeth Widdows on 071-256 5815

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Chairman's Secretary

£14,000 + bonus

Highly successful City based brokers are looking for a young and willing secretary to assist the Chairman and his PA. On a daily basis you'll take shorthand dictation from the Chairman, organise his meetings and field his calls. There's lots of advice to get your feet into - company files, cars and social occasions. A sense of humour and skills of 80/60 essential. Please call Elizabeth Widdows on 071-256 5815

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LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

071-481 4481

WP EXPERTISE?
£21,000 PKG+

If you have extensive knowledge of several word processing systems, with emphasis on DTP, plus supervisory experience, our client could use your skills. As Secretary/PA/Superintendent of the department you will be responsible for monitoring the constant workflow of the secretaries in this international department.

TRAINING
£20,000 PKG+

Word processor training experience is absolutely essential to secure this position. Your role will be to train all new secretaries and word processing staff on the current WP system. Stage 2 will involve the introduction of an advanced training programme at a later date. Hours are extremely flexible.

Benefits for the above positions include 5% merit, sick, holiday allowance, free health insurance, paid overtime, very generous annual bonus scheme. **PLEASE CALL**

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CROSS
SELECTIONFASHIONABLE JOB
IN CLOTHING
DESIGN COMPANY

C.216-17K

A growing design company is looking for a Senior Secretary/PA to work at main board level.

You will be using your excellent organisational and communication skills as well as working on your own initiative in an extremely busy office.

Ideally aged 25-35. Must have skills 100/60. Please call us now.

Senior Secretaries

173 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9PB

071-499 0092

(Fax 071-491 7276)

Recruitment Consultants

BRUSSELS...
Where it's happening.TOP PA/Pharmaceuticals
Good French 20KFIRST JOB/Events & Promotion
Fluent French 12K

Brussels has a buzzing international atmosphere. If you're interested in events leading up to 1992.

Call Sam: 071/584 3222.
Chairs: 010 322 647 70 28
(Please reverse the charges)

Please call us for an interview until 5.00pm.
London - Brussels - Paris.

Interviews will take place on 20th November.
Carers National Association aims to be an Equal Opportunities employer but regrets the office does not have wheelchair access.

The closing date for applications is 12 November 1990.
Carers National Association aims to be an Equal Opportunities employer but regrets the office does not have wheelchair access.

EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANTMAYFAIR
LONDON W1
£13,000
+ BONUS

The Chairman of an international organisation based in Mayfair, requires an Executive Assistant to assist his P.A. in maintaining his personal office.

The successful candidate will possess good typing skills, will have an excellent command of both spoken and written English, and will be experienced in the use of a word processor.

The ability to speak German will be an advantage, although this is not essential. The work will involve reception, switchboard and hospitality duties, as well as assisting the P.A. with administrative tasks. Applicants must be self-motivated and positive, and as workloads fluctuate, they should have a responsible and flexible attitude.

This position is an excellent opportunity for a young person wishing to gain experience in a prestigious environment. A commencing salary of £13,000 p.a. will be offered, plus BUPA, season ticket and annual bonus.
If you wish to apply, please telephone Mrs Teresa Lark on 0663-765657 between 10am and 4pm.

TELEVISION SECRETARY
£15,000 +

Use your excellent organisational skills and calm, flexible working attitude to take on the role of a Secretary for a dynamic senior executive in the Sales and Marketing division of a leading television company.

Send shortlisted CVs and WP skills required and a letter of motivation to the following address: **TELEVISION SECRETARY**, c/o The Grosvenor Bureau, 173 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9PB. This is a demanding and fulfilling position which will require a high level of intelligence and initiative, good organisational and communication skills, and a proven ability to work under pressure and a fast-paced environment. Please telephone for an initial discussion.

071-499 6568

The GROSVENOR Bureau

TWO SECRETARIES
required for company involved in leasing/banking.

1. PA to the Chairman responsible for typing, shorthand, travel. Must be able to use Word Processor.
2. Receptionist/ Girl Friday responsible for mini switchboard.

Both salaries negotiable, usual holiday entitlement. Situated centre of West End.
Please Reply with CV to Box No 1803

SALARY NEGOTIABLE

We are seeking an efficient and charming secretary for this young, dynamic residential property company, to work in the fast sales department for the director and a negotiator.

The successful applicant must be able to liaise competently with clients and applicants on the telephone, and have a flair for organisation in a hectic environment. Good typing is essential.

Please apply by sending enclosing CV to: **Annabel Gordon, Russell Simpson, 8 Anderson Street, London SW4 3LJ**

DRAKE PERSONNEL

INTERNATIONAL MARKETING
£15,500 + benefits

Turnover is a key factor in this position. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's international marketing department, including the preparation of reports, budgets, and the coordination of all international marketing activities.

Call Liz Applestone on 071-523 1226.

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Assistant to Controller
Europe and International
£20,000 + excellent benefits and prospects

An English mother-tongue Assistant/Secretary with good German and preferably some financial experience in the computer industry to work for the Controller of a large international computer company based in Germany.

Good administration and organisational skills, total numeracy, typing 50wpm, knowledge of Lotus 1-2-3, MS Word, and MS-DOS required. Familiarity with graphics software, electronic mail and personal editor desirable.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT
IN INSURANCE
£16,000

A graduate with excellent Spanish and Italian and good keyboard skills is required for this well known Insurance Co based in Weybridge.

You must enjoy research as you will be maintaining and updating a research base on the European Insurance market. Markets, producing reports on a weekly and monthly basis and assisting the Research and Co-ordination Manager in all activities.

If you are in your twenties, with the ability to organise information, some banking or insurance experience and the personality to work with and fit into a small team, then please call now.

International Secretaries
173 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9PB
071-491 7100
Recruitment Consultants

The Language Specialists

LAYLAH PUGH has over 10 years experience in the field of language and translation. She is a native speaker of English and has a high level of fluency in French, German, Italian, Spanish, and Dutch. She is also a qualified translator and interpreter. She is currently seeking a position where she can use her skills and experience to the full.

MERROW EMPLOYMENT AGENCY
071-499 3939
73 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9DD

SEARCH FOR A STAR
£10,000

Co-ordinate search assignments and build relationships with VP clients and candidates when you join this international and world famous firm of executive search consultants. You should be socially confident and well organised with a quick and enquiring mind. Stunning offers. 80/60 skills required.

Please telephone 071 240 3511
2/3 Bedford Street, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9ND

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

071 240 3511
2/3 Bedford Street, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9ND

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
£17,500

Full senior level role in a very friendly, sociable co where your personality and sense of humour will be appreciated as much as your skills. You'll assist two Directors, dealing with all aspects of the business, which means you'll have lots of variety and scope to use your initiative. Skills 80/60 and WP exp. Age 25-35 years.

Please call 071 499 8570.

CAROLINE KING
appointments

071 499 8570
2/3 Bedford Street, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9ND

WP TRAINER - EC4
£22,000 Package

Dedicated WP Trainer required for dynamic American bank. Must have previous WP training experience plus excellent presentation and communication skills. Age 25-35.

Call Lizette on 071 638 1463.
BEAVERS LTD (Recruitment Consultants)

SENIOR PA/SECRETARY - W6
£15,000 + Excellent Benefits

Excellent opportunity for a senior PA to work for the Finance & Operations Director of a large international company. You will be involved in project work, report writing and the preparation of complex presentations, budgets & schedules. Must be numerate and have min 10wpm sth, 60wpm copy and WP experience. Age 25-40 with min 5 years experience at senior secretarial level. DTP & Lotus experience an advantage. Call Tanya on 071 638 1463.

BEAVERS LIMITED (Recruitment Consultants)

Bilingual Asst
to £16,500 + bens

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RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

BY CHRISTOPHER WARMAN, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

From his luxuriously converted tug, Peter de Savary, businessman, surveys his latest creation across Falmouth Bay: Port Pendennis harbour village, designed and built to reflect the mood and architecture of a Cornish fishing village.

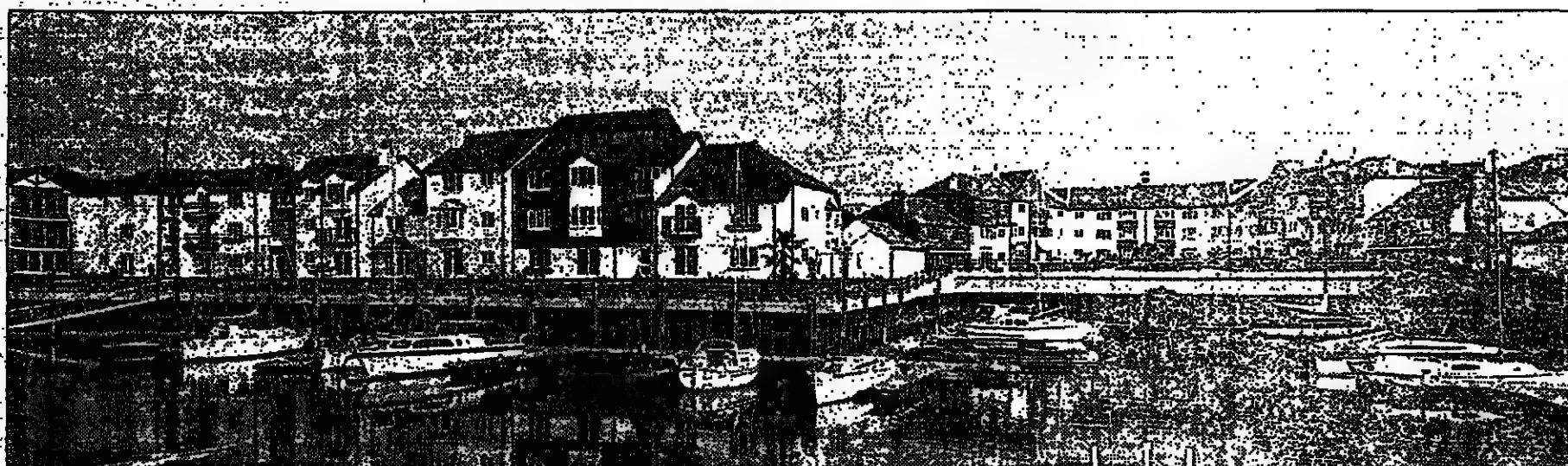
"This," he says, "is a place for romantics, for people who want to get away from the fast life and who love the Cornish coast, its rivers and creeks."

The man who has breathed life into Land's End, and is undertaking an even more formidable challenge to do the same at John O'Groats, is confident that there are enough romantics with deep pockets to buy the 200 homes at Port Pendennis, which has 70 berths within the marina basin.

His enthusiasm for the project, a private development by himself and his family, has led to an exchange of contracts on 15 apartments and five houses since its recent launch. "Port Pendennis is more than just a house by the sea, it is a way of life," Mr de Savary says. "Not only is Falmouth one of the world's finest natural harbours, offering some of the best and safest day-sailing waters anywhere in Britain, but the positioning of the village gives immediate access to a delightful and lively Cornish town with a long maritime history."

The focus of the village will be the yacht club, from which he intends to co-ordinate the 1992 British challenge for the America's Cup. "As I will be living in a 7,000 sq ft penthouse on top of the club, I have an interest in keeping the village nice," he adds.

The buildings, using local stone and slate, are in a variety of designs, showing Dutch, French and Spanish influence to recall Cornwall's many settlers. All the houses have gardens and many



Port Pendennis harbour village at Falmouth: the design of the buildings, in local stone and slate, shows Dutch, French and Spanish influence to recall Cornwall's settlers

Ready for a wave of settlers

overlook private moorings. Although there are no discounts, a range of financial packages includes an 8.5 per cent fixed limited mortgage and a 50-50 arrangement (pay 50 per cent now and 50 per cent within three years at today's prices) to entice the buyer.

The first phase of the development is completed, with prices ranging from £109,000 for a two-bedroom apartment to £350,000 for a four-bedroom house. The properties are on 999-year leases, with a ground rent of one Cornish penny a year, a typical de Savary flourish.

Details: Falmouth Developments (0325 21211) or the agent Humphreys.

Port Pendennis is an example

of the continuing interest in marina homes. The sale of homes in marina developments has, of course, been affected by the slump in the market, and work has slowed on all but a few. The number of planned schemes is, however, on the increase and Philip Mason, managing director of Marina Developments, believes demand will exceed supply for the next few years as leisure time increases. The desire of men and women to mess

Despite the market slump, waterside developments such as the Port Pendennis project of Peter de Savary (right) are proving popular



more than 5,000 berths. Among its schemes are two at Southampton. At Hythe marina, there are townhouses with three to five bedrooms, all with a berth, from £334,950 to £535,000. At Ocean Village marina, the three-bedroom houses, with 10-metre berths, cost from £193,950 to £352,950. The group is also building marina villages, with pubs, restaurants and yacht clubs, at Plymouth, Brixham and Milford Haven.

Details: Marina Developments (0703 229461).

Along the south coast, at Eastbourne, Tarmac is next week launching the first homes at Crumblies harbour village, built on 300 acres of shingle. Already a retail park has been built, along with a bowling alley and multiplex cinema, and sites have been set aside for a primary school, four-star hotel and offices.

The first homes, developed by McLean Homes South East, a Tarmac subsidiary, are in two schemes, Harbour Lights, which is a courtyard development of houses and flats, and the Haven, a more traditional grouping of three and four-bedroom houses. Prices range from £45,000 to £70,000 for

the apartments and from £57,500 to £145,000 for the houses.

The marina and housing have been designed simultaneously, and a waterside village centre will form the hub of the community. There will be a tidal outer harbour and non-tidal inner harbour, and from this site, seven harbours are within a day's sail: Brighton and Lymington on the south coast, and five on the north coast of France.

Details: McLean Homes South East (0883 717911).

This is the first development at Crumblies, to be followed by a £90 million residential and leisure scheme at Sovereign harbour, by Lovell Urban Renewal.

Ultimately, the Crumblies is designed to incorporate a marina with moorings for more than 1,800 boats and 2,500 homes.

At Brighton marina, Barratt properties says it is attracting 200 visitors a week, demonstrating the lure of a marina scheme despite the general market conditions.

The marina village, a few hundred yards from the centre of the town, was begun in 1971 and 1,600 of the 1,700 available moorings have been taken.

A further 300 are to be added in the next year, as well as a hotel and yacht club in this Breat Walker development.

Barratt is responsible for building 850 townhouses and apartments, of which 172 have been completed. The next phase is a large block of apartments, to start next spring. Prices range from £195,000 for two bedrooms to £260,000 for three bedrooms. Also available are a four-bedroom townhouse at £400,000 and a five-bedroom house for £620,000.

Details: Barratt (0483 505333).

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Office running costs eat into the profits

The cost of providing office accommodation for a member of staff in central London can be almost as much as an employee's annual salary, the Anderlyn Consultancy concludes in a report on office costs. The startling statistic emerges in returns from 64 companies throughout the country in the consultancy's sixth annual Scope (Study of the Cost of Office Premises in England) survey.

Roger Henderson, the chairman of the office interior design and space planning consultancy, warns that the true cost to business of providing office accommodation is showing signs of going through the roof. He says the key to controlling expenditure is first understanding it, and that "businesses which take a head-in-the-sand attitude towards the cost of office premises run the risk of paying a heavy price for their ignorance".

In central London, the price of providing office accommodation, including rents, rates and building running costs, works out at £8,211 a person or £47.17 a sq ft, compared with £5,530 (£34.57 a sq ft) in the home counties and £4,051 (£18.39 a sq ft) in the rest of England. These total costs show a substantial increase over last year, when they were £7,327, £4,731 and £2,601 respectively.

The figure of £8,211 a person for the average cost in central London is based on an average rent and rates of about £34 a sq ft figure in the sample. This is much higher

Businesses are facing soaring costs as the price of office space continues to rise

In prime locations, adding about £2,000 for each £10 a sq ft increase in the combined rent and rates bill. For some businesses, this will mean that the cost of providing and maintaining accommodation roughly equates to employment costs.

Rent, virtually a fixed cost, is the biggest single item on the expenditure bill, but running costs, "which businesses can seek to control", Mr Henderson says, can comprise up to one third of overall annual office costs.

The largest item on the running cost bill for rented offices is likely to be the service charge (25 per cent), followed by building management costs (20 per cent), electricity (18 per cent) and general repairs and maintenance (17 per cent). They comprise 80 per cent of the average office running cost. These are the areas that will have to be attacked if businesses are to control expenditure, he believes.

Even without the service charge element, there has been a significant increase over last year in each geographical area, amounting overall to more than 30 per cent. Repairs and maintenance, building management and energy have

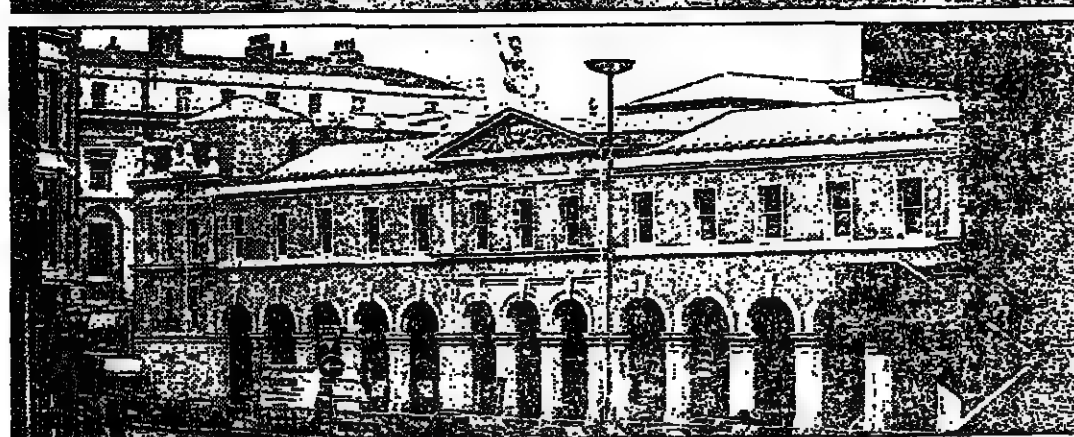
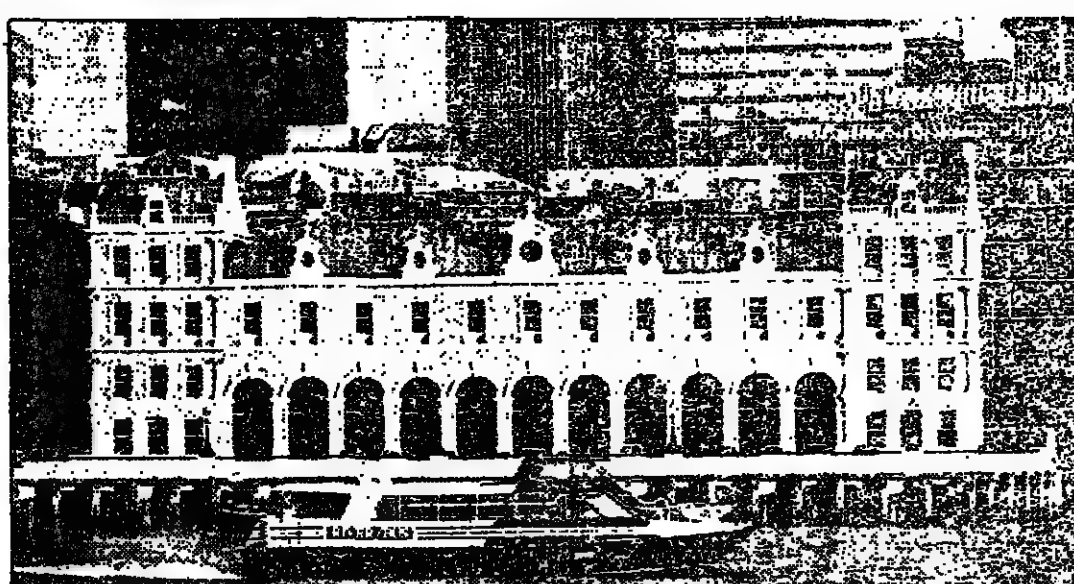
been the prime contributors.

The high cost of central London offices has led to a squeeze on office space, with the average space per person being reduced from 194 sq ft in 1989 to 168 sq ft this year, compared with 206 sq ft in the rest of England and 183 sq ft in the home counties. Nearly one in five offices surveyed reported that they were at or beyond their maximum capacity in terms of the number of staff accommodated, and another one in five were within 10 per cent of capacity.

New buildings are more energy-efficient than older ones. Offices less than five years old pay an average of £1.34 a sq ft on energy compared with £2.91 a sq ft in buildings between 21 and 50 years old.

Looking at the staff's welfare, the survey finds that illness related strictly to buildings, the "sick building syndrome", caused by bad design, and particularly air-conditioning systems, seems not as common as once feared. Mr Henderson says that only 14 per cent of companies, all in fully or partially air-conditioned buildings, reported it, and virtually all examples were eradicated by common sense measures, ranging from improved humidity and ventilation to "giving the person attention".

Scope 90, £65, from Anderlyn Consultancy, 209 Harrow Road, London W2 5EG.



Billingsgate, the former fish market on the Thames in the City of London (river aspect above, street aspect below) now converted into offices, has come on the market with a new 25-year lease and a rent of £3.25 million a year.

The building is at present let to Citibank, which has decided not to occupy it, and is to be disposed of by St Martins Property Corporation and Citibank. They offer the incentive of the first two years rent-free.

The redeveloped Billingsgate, incorporating an award-winning design by Richard Rogers, has about 91,000 sq ft of space, including a data/computer centre, and the agents, Jones Lang Wootton and Richard Main & Co, describe the scheme as "probably the most highly specified office space available in Europe". The price equals about £20 a sq ft for the lower floors, and £47.50 a sq ft for the dealing and upper floors.

IN THE MARKET

West End winner

The biggest West End lettings deal of the year has been concluded with the announcement by Kumagai Gumi UK Ltd and London & Metropolitan of the letting of 20 St James's Square, London SW1, the former Distillers company headquarters, to Grand Metropolitan, which will occupy the 70,000 sq ft building as its corporate headquarters. The rental may, it is believed, exceed £70 a sq ft.

Kumagai Gumi acquired the building in 1987 and, in association with London & Metropolitan, restored part of the existing building, including the original Robert Adam house, and built new offices behind it.

The north of England is to be the site of what it claimed to be one of Europe's most advanced business parks. Doxford business park is launched today by Sunderland borough council and Akeler Developments/NCC Property. Business parks are dotted all over the south of England, but this is a strong boost for the north, providing a £125 million scheme for 1.25 million sq ft of office and commercial space. The park, to be built on 79 acres in Sunderland, incorporates Britain's newest enterprise zone, which offers sizeable tax incentives for UK and overseas investors. Due for completion in 1995, it will include Sunderland's first four-star hotel.

The surveyors Gerald Eve acted for Plessey Pension Trust in its £5 million purchase of Albemarle House, London W1, mentioned in this column on October 10.

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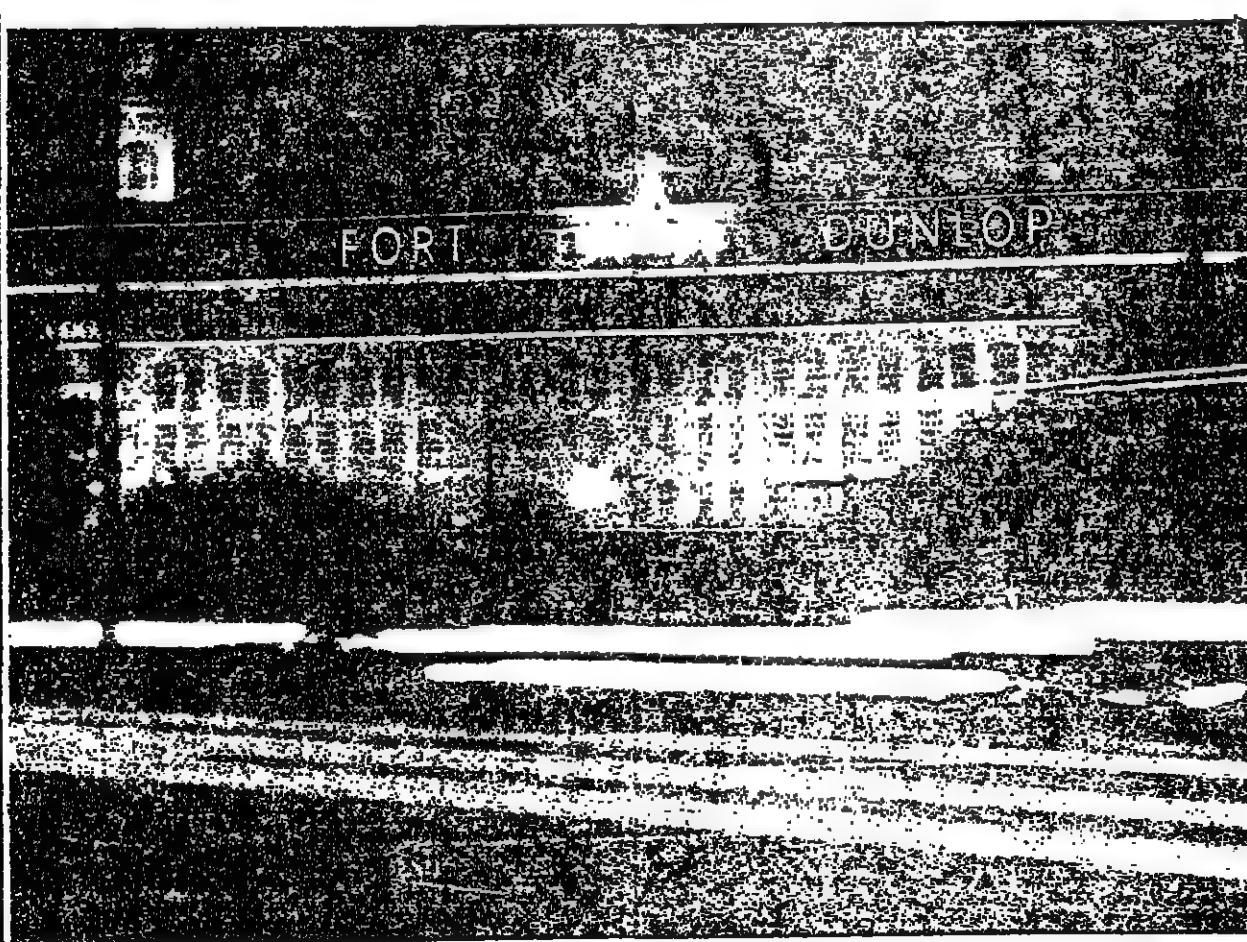
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Nohaldun to head long-range treble for Easterby team

By MANDARIN
(MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

NOHALDUN, from Peter Easterby's successful multi-purpose stable in Yorkshire, has a sound chance of winning the valuable United House Construction Handicap Chase at Ascot today, and he is my nap even though he has not raced since early in May.

Just a quick glance at *Timeform's* invaluable review of the past season, *Chasers and Hurdles 1989-90* (£59), shows that Nohaldun is clearly a clean-winded horse, who comes to hand early and easily after a lengthy rest.

When he won first time out at Cheltenham last year, he was making a successful seasonal debut for the fifth time in six seasons.

Nohaldun is also well suited by a strong-run race over two miles on firm ground. His ground is guaranteed, while the good gallop is likely to be set by Hognanay and Clever Folly, both habitual front-runners.

Last season, Nohaldun's most important success was achieved at Liverpool where he won the Captain Morgan Amiree Chase at the start of the Grand National programme.

On that occasion two of his rivals today, Clever Folly (seventh) and Fu's Lady (tenth) were well in arrears. The handicapper has allowed Clever Folly 4lb for a 13-length beating and that looks insufficient.

Later in the spring, Nohaldun contested another valuable handicap chase over today's course and distance. On that occasion, though, he could manage no fifth place behind Wm. Gode Help, Hognanay, Campegg, Ash and Fritz Asst, but after a really bad mistake at the



Easterby: his Nohaldun is a strong Ascot fancy

second-last fence had put put him to what appeared a winning chance.

Hognanay, best Broad Beam when he won at Sandown last January. When Campegg-Ash also accounted for the same horse at Cheltenham earlier this month, he did so in such style that he left the indelible impression that he will pose the greatest threat to Nohaldun on this occasion, even though my nap was rated 23lb his superior at the end of last season. As a result of that Cheltenham win the gap has narrowed to 17lb.

On the corresponding occasion last year, Philip Hobbs, the successful young West Country trainer from Minehead, captured the Steel Plate And Sections Young Chasers Qualifier with Gay Edition. Now he can win it again with Feador, who should be excused that unfortunate lapse at Wincanton 13 days ago, when, with the benefit of hindsight, his rider, Peter Hobbs, was clearly not fit enough to do the horse justice. Previously, Feador had won in style at Cheltenham.

If Nohaldun is successful at Ascot, he could easily become the middle leg of what would be a long-range treble for his versatile trainer, who will be looking to Dawson City (1.30) and Nineships (3.30) to win at Chester and Newcastle as well.

Nineships tackles the Billy Bow Handicap Hurdle at Gosforth Park fresh from beating the in-form Chantry Bartle at Carlisle, while Dawson City, with Willie Carson in the saddle, is assured of the soft ground that he relishes when contesting the Granada Tonight Handicap at Chester.

On the Roodey, Pat Eddery can complete a double on Roger De Berkeard (2.30) and Anodyne (3.0) but Venturist, his ride for John Gosden in the Granada Studios Tour Stakes, should not have the measure of Staggered, who lived up to his tall home reputation, even if somewhat belatedly, when eventually winning at York 11 days ago.

Finally, make a note of Peter Walford's riders, Moonlight (2.15) and Sinead (2.45) at Edinburgh. Both will enjoy the softish ground.

Swinburn has first century

WALTER Swinburn achieved a long-held personal ambition, 100 winners in a season, for the first time with an armchair ride on Lillian Bayliss in the Queensferry Stakes at Chester yesterday.

Swinburn has reached the nervous nineties three times in the past and in 1984 suffered the extreme frustration of finishing on 99, but this time he has soared to his century with 20 winners in the last 15 days.

By RICHARD EVANS

RACING will receive £41.53 million from levy on betting turnover next year following agreement yesterday between bookmakers and the Horserace Betting Levy Board.

The agreement represents a compromise following weeks of negotiations with the bookmakers having offered to contribute £38.3 million and the Levy Board having budgeted to receive £44.1 million.

The two sides were divided yesterday over the financial impact of the settlement. The Levy Board insisted it would prompt a significant reappraisal of the allocation of levy funds, while the bookmakers argued it was sufficient to enable the board to honour its commitments to prize-money and other areas of racing.

The £41.53 million yield from the 30th annual levy scheme is based on estimated betting turnover of £4.54 billion for 1991-2. It represents an increase of £2 million on this year's expected levy return of £39.1 million.

The levy, which betting shop punters pay on top of the eight per cent betting duty, goes towards prize-money, course improvement grants and integrity services, such as racecourse patrol cameras and the Horserace Forensic Laboratory.

Sir Ian Trevelyan, who retired last October as chairman of the board, said the agreement was the best he had achieved in his 20 years at the helm.

The Levy Board and bookmakers agreed the principle of indemnification would be applied to the fixed fee for the 31st scheme.

The 30th levy scheme will see the levy-free slice increase to £220,000 per shop while the fixed fee will increase to £185. The change will be no change in the cash and credit levy rate of £1 in 50p and £1 in £10. The charge to on-course bookmakers will increase for the first time in years, from £10 to £30.

Piggott lands four in Ireland

FROM OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT, DUBLIN

"THAT must be a good omen for Royal Ascum," was the reaction of Vincent O'Brien after Lester Piggott had turned in a vintage display of complete four-timer for the Ballydoyle trainer at the Curragh yesterday.

The local crowd gave Piggott a tremendous ovation on his return to Ireland and his accumulator paid odds of 38/1 even though they all started favourite.

The sequence was started by Legal Profession, carrying the colours of Jacqueline O'Brien.

Piggott had to work a good deal harder to keep Fairy Folk in front in a three-year-old filly race to the Eila Reiford Fillies Race. She had eased out in the betting to 9-4, but responded to the drive of Piggott, holding on by a head from Class Dominator.

Classic Minstrel (3-1), the only member of the quartet to carry the colours of Classic Throughbred, pic, beat off Sheikh Mohammed's newcomer Taunting by three-quarters of a length in the Jack Kitch Maiden while a marvellous afternoon was capped by a well-timed run on Paver-B. (6-1) in the Hugh Lupus Race. "It is certainly going to be hard for Vincent," said Piggott as he took the saddle off Paver-B.

Dermot Browne release page 5

EDINBURGH

By MANDARIN

2.15 Moonlight. 2.45 Sinead. 3.15 Swallow. 3.45 Kinstenbock. 4.15 Miss Galt. 4.45 Svetlana Prosser. 5.15 Lady's Mantle.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.15 Batfish. 2.45 Vote In Favour. 3.15 Swallow. 3.45 Florio. 4.15 Soft Call.

Going: good (good to soft patches)

Draw: 5f, low numbers best

2.15 FISHERMAN'S FRIEND MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O; £2,528: 1m) (12 runners)

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FOOTBALL

Villa's weapons not up to waging war at this level

By DAVID MILLER

ASTON Villa's UEFA Cup meeting with Inter Milan, the most testing for the Midlands club since it won the European Cup eight years ago, may be determined much in the mind as by the feet. Both sides have problems which they must try to hide, and how well they do it is likely to decide who goes into the second leg of the second round with an advantage.

Inter, who with Sampdoria are a point behind Milan, the Italian league leaders, on Sunday conceded three goals. The fact that they beat Pisa 6-3 was some compensation. Serena scoring three times. Yet Josef Venglos, who watched the match with his assistant, John Ward, is aware that Inter's defence is not all it might be and will hope to exploit the fact at Villa Park tonight.

Cascarino, who missed the second leg of the first round against the Czechoslovak side, Banik Ostrava, because of an injury in the first leg, will play tonight, but his form this

season for what, after two months, is a mid-table side, is not such as to suggest Inter need tremble. A substantial responsibility rests with the modest, down-to-earth Platt who, after his spectacular emergence during the World Cup, is learning the facts of a hard-earned commodity for all but the most exceptional.

Can Platt and Cascarino find the gap that Pisa did? Inter are sufficiently experienced not to be intimidated by a Villa crowd that will be thirsting for success on the return to European competition, so Villa should not expect too much from their home advantage.

"After have players with tremendous individual skills, and are one of the best clubs in the world," Venglos said yesterday. "We do not fear them, and I suspect they will respect us." But how much?

Inter have Brehme, the world's most accomplished left back, a dynamic midfield

force in Matthäus, and match-winners up front in Serena and Klinsmann. While Inter's instinct may be to defend, they have the individual ability to score on the break when Villa falter. Villa will want to attack, but risk being undone by shortcomings in midfield and defence.

There is a serious doubt about McGrath, the Irish stalwart, who has an arthritic right knee and missed the goalless draw at Wimbledon on Saturday. He will have a late fitness test. His deputy, Andy Cumyn, aged 22, a utility defender, may be a physics graduate of Birmingham University but could be given an examination by later that is beyond his experience and grasp, never mind that Venglos said yesterday, optimistically, "I'm sure he will fill the breach."

Many matches, especially at international level, are settled in midfield. Against Banik, it was evident that Cowans needs, and is not receiving, creative support in midfield. Tonight, the role of subduing Matthäus — Platt's or Nielsen's? — will be as critical as that of tying down Klinsmann.

Venglos is a manager of wide knowledge, but the expectation must be that Villa do not possess the weapons, nor the form, for such a confrontation as this. I would expect Inter to return home with a draw.

Zenga, their World Cup goalkeeper, who injured a calf muscle in last week's European qualifying tie and missed the Pisa match, is expected to be fit.

Jahangir serves a welcome return

MARC ASPLAND



Back in court: The world squash rackets No. 1, Jahangir Khan, who announced his international retirement last month, practises at the Levitt Lams club yesterday. His only involvement in top-level squash will be with the club in the national league

Graf's face shows the strain of a dramatic year

By ANDREW LONGMORE

NORMAL service was resumed on Brighton seaford yesterday as Steffi Graf took the first step in defence of her Midland Bank championship. Less predictably, there were good wins for two of the seven British women in the main draw, Clare Wood beating the No. 4 seed, Natalia Zvereva, and Sara Gomer overwhelming the No. 8 seed, Rachel McQuillan, to reach the second round.

On court, there was little to mark the passing of a year for the champion, who beat the slight and courageous Swede, Cecilia Dahlman, in straight sets. Off it, the paleness of Graf's face, the suspicion in her eyes and the low, hesitant tones of her voice told of a lifetime lived in the last 12 months.

Graf has lost only four times this year. But two of those defeats cost her titles, in Wimbledon to Garrison and the US Open to Sabatini, and a third came in the final of the French Open to Seles, who had also beaten her a fortnight earlier in the final of the German Open in Berlin. Graf has also had to cope with well-publicised problems in her family and with her health, both of which, as she admitted for the first time yesterday, have driven her to distraction if not quite to retirement.

"It has been quite a long year and I am looking forward to getting it over," she said. "There are many moments I don't want to remember, things I don't want to go through again. I have changed in a few ways."

"At times I became very depressed and very quiet. I just tried to get away from it, but too often I let the problems disturb my concentration on court. I guess didn't help. I was sick in Paris and Wimbledon and I didn't think I would be able to finish some games. I thought about a lot of things through the year, though I never actually thought of quitting."

Graf's private troubles are not over yet; her father has to go to a German court on Friday in connection with a paternity suit, but yesterday she seemed slightly more relaxed than she

has and, in contrast to much of the year, was beginning to sound optimistic again.

"There is so much more I want to do. It's not so much winning titles. I have done that. It's my own game. My net game is improving and I can go for it a little bit more on the backhand," Graf said. "I am determined to do a better show in defeat than most, hitting hard on both sides and rarely letting the champion dominate. Graf was surprised, but not enough to be in danger of defeat, and she won 6-2, 6-2 in 72 minutes.

Having suffered from problems with her health and from the death of her father earlier in the year, Gomer will know some of the agonies Graf has endured. She just has not had to live them in the public eye. Yesterday, ranked 130, she emerged from the wilderness with a 6-1, 6-1 victory over Rachel McQuillan, courtesy of a new attitude and a new diagonally strung Mac Rae Power Weave racket.

The former guaranteed more aggression, the latter, according to the advertisement, 20 per cent more power, 30 per cent more control. The combination proved too much for the Australian, ranked 38, and seemed to inspire Wood, who beat the enigmatic Zvereva, who is ranked 154 places above her at 13, 6-3, 6-3, winning the last six games.

"This is the best win of my career and it's particularly nice to do it in my own country," she said.

RESULTS: First round: H. Harneman (Fr) vs C. Kohde-Kilsch (Ger), 7-6, 7-5; C. Caverzasco (It) vs C. Tanner (Fr), 6-2, 7-5; C. Lindqvist (Swe) vs J. Burke (Ire), 6-2, 6-2; S. Appelmann (Bel) vs L. Garrone (It), 6-2, 6-4; S. Gomer (GB) vs R. McQuillan (Aus), 6-1, 6-1; S. Cecchini (It) vs S. Bormo (GB), 6-4, 6-4; S. Graf (Ger) vs C. Dahlman (Swe), 6-2, 6-2; V. Zvereva (Bel) vs S. Gomer (GB), 6-4, 6-2; S. Wood (GB) vs N. Zvereva (USSR), 6-3, 6-3.

British youth system, page 38

Bordeaux move
Arnor Gudjonsson, Iceland's international midfield football player, has signed a four-year contract with Bordeaux, of the French first division.

Milan call on Dutch trio against Bruges

MILAN — AC Milan will be taking nothing for granted when they begin their defence of the European Cup at home to injury-hit Club Brugge, of Belgium, tonight. Milan, who have a bye in the first round, will field their entire Dutch trio of Gullit, Van Basten and Rijkaard for only the second time, in a European Cup match this year (Reuters reports).

is wary of the opposition. "We could not have faced a worse team. It's like those boxers who fall but can't be knocked out," Sacchi said.

Bruges, who beat Lillestrom, of Norway, in the opening round, could be without three key players, however, after bruising 5-1 loss to Anderlecht on Saturday, their first defeat for 35 matches. Disizi, the Hungarian libero, is suspended, while Costermans and Farina, the last night forward, are both nursing injuries.

Pittodrie's hopes lie with Watt

By a CORRESPONDENT
ABERDEEN'S ambition to progress beyond the second round of European competition for the first time in five seasons will depend largely on the contribution of Michael Watt, their young goalkeeper.

The 19-year-old, making a first Cup Winners' Cup appearance against the Polish side, Legia Warsaw, at Pittodrie tonight as Andy Dibble, on loan from Manchester City, is ineligible and the regular first choice.

When Spalders is injured, Watt, a 19-year-old, is stepping in from a shocker in the Scottish league, where he has been a regular starter since he was 17. Alex Smith, the Aberdeen manager, was reluctant to expose Watt to a prolonged spell in the premier division, although he has no reservations about the Scottish defender's ability to cope with the pressure in a single match.

"I know he will be physically and mentally prepared for the task," Smith said. "The few games he played last season, when Spalders was injured, have made him a better keeper and have brought an air of quiet confidence to his play."

The phrase "quiet confidence" is applicable to the entire Aberdeen squad, after their systematic dismantling of Hearts of Midlothian's defence during a 3-0 home win last weekend which perplexed Ryszard Kosiński, Legia's coach. Kosiński arrived for his sparring mission believing the Scottish game was contested only with power and passion and was surprised by Aberdeen's poise and composure.

"It was a tremendous display which proved they will be hard to beat," the Polish coach said. He has the added anxiety of knowing his own side is in indifferent form.

Poland's clubs and players possess an unquestionable thirst for Western currency and the drain of talent to Europe's wealthier countries has been severe on the Warsaw team.

Dariusz Dziekanowski and Dennis Włodarczyk were lost to Celtic, and the players they provided of tonight's opponents are poor compensation for the loss of talent. Kosiński clearly relishes the role of underdog, however, and, in a case that tried fans, quietly ceded the lead.

The key to any discomfort for the Aberdeen goalkeeper could rest with Roman Kosecki, a quick and intelligent forward. He impressed when Legia achieved a score-draw in an away leg at Barcelona last season. Aberdeen will be aware of the danger.

Success would be sweet for Jordan

By CLIVE WHITE

IF IT was not for an uncomfortable feeling of déjà vu, Hearts of Midlothian would have been uplifted by the news from Bologna that the past few days. Their success in the second round of European competition, after suffering their fifth reverse in six games, had chosen to dismiss their coach just two days before the first leg against the Scottish club in Edinburgh tonight.

Such a dramatic course of action is not always tantamount to throwing in the towel, as Hearts would testify. Only last month, they did precisely the same thing when they sacked Alex McLeish, who had scored three goals in the previous round.

With only a caretaker manager in charge, they then went and pulled off the most unexpected result of any of the British clubs that night by drawing with the Soviets.

The arrival of Joe Jordan from Bristol City as manager immediately after that game, however, has yet to have the desired effect upon Hearts' own miserable league form. Not counting the defeat by Celtic, in which Jordan was an "observer", Hearts have taken only three points out of the last eight.

But the UEFA Cup has, like any cup competition, provided the team with a temporary escape from their domestic nightmare, as they illustrated when beating the Soviet runners-up 3-1 in the return leg. Gligi Radice, "for whom this is his second spell as coach to Bologna, will be hopeful of a more judicious following a poor response from the public, the chairman has admitted his blunder.

By way of some small compensation, all tonight's spectators will be entered into a free lottery for which first prize will be, appropriately, a Fiat Panda.

HEARTS (probable): H. Smith, A. McLaren, C. Levens, D. McPherson, T. McKeown, G. Macdonald, N. Berry, E. Robertson, J. Cope, D. W. Foster, I. Ferguson.

Yuri Savicev, the Soviet forward, cannot play in the European Cup Winners' Cup second-round, first-leg tie for Olympique Saintes against Sampdoria tonight, because they kept on playing with their former teams after signing with Olympiakos (Reuters reports).

Scots need not tremble

DUNDEE United should not be overwhelmed by their UEFA Cup second-round visit to Vitesse Arnhem, who gained their second Dutch league victory of the season on Saturday.

While United were keeping their leading position in Scotland with a goalless draw at Celtic before 34,363 people at Parkhead, Arnhem beat Vitesse Twente 2-0 before a crowd of 5,700. They lie thirteenth among the 18 clubs in the Dutch first division.

ATHENS: Oleg Protasov and the official, who had sent off the United defender, David Barnes, for a second bookable offence.

Paul Rideout has had a transfer request turned down by Southampton.

The World Cup referee, Pietro D'Elia, will take charge of the European Championship, qualifying tie between the Republic of Ireland and England on November 14.

Two second division clubs, Notts County and Ipswich Town have announced sizeable losses. County blame their loss of £492,560 on ambitious transfer signings which paid off with a successful promotion bid. Ipswich state that their deficit of £93,000 is partly due to the severance payment to their former manager, John Owen.

Moscow's Torpedo have pulled out of their match against Mordovia Tyndi next month because they were not prepared to accept only 50 per cent share of gate receipts.

TORSHAVN: Jan Muller, aged 21, will become the Faeroe Islands' first professional footballer next month, when he signs a one-year contract with the Dutch second division club, Go Ahead Eagles.

The Brazilian international midfielder player, Silas, has signed a one-year contract with the Italian first division club, Cesena.

Players from one of Dublin's top clubs are to be given antitoxin injections because their pitch is used for the Dublin Horse Show every year.

Shamrock Rovers now play their home matches at the headquarters of the Royal Dublin Society, best known as the venue for the prestigious annual horse show each summer.

SATURDAY'S ALL-TICKET MATCHES: Barnsley League First division Aston Villa vs Manchester City v Manchester United (12.30); Nottm Forest v Tottenham (2.0).

Fibbens may retire after Perth

By CRAIG LORD

MIKE Fibbens, the fastest swimmer in Britain, believes the dogmatism of the national governing body in Yorkshire may cost him his international career.

The sprinter from Barnet has set a January deadline to find financial support to replace the sponsorship which, he claims, Great Britain Swimming Federation rules lost him. If no help is forthcoming, he will make his last appearance for Britain at the world championships in Perth, Australia, for which he has yet to be selected.

Fibbens, aged 22, who is ranked in the top 30 in the world on 100 metres freestyle, said he would be "some kind of national hero" had he had that

success in tennis. He would also be much wealthier: his parents pay all his costs.

A Canadian sponsorship deal came to grief last summer, when Fibbens was told by the British authorities that he could not compete at the Canadian national championships for his Calgary club because the event clashed with a training camp for the International Cup.

Fibbens said: "Despite a letter explaining that I would lose my deal, the GB people said, 'No way, you're not special' and that was that. 'These people have to understand that the sport is changing from amateur to semi-professional and we need all the financial help we can get.'"

"If I cannot find a sponsor who is willing to allocate about

£4,000-a-year to cover my living costs, Perth will mark the end of my international career."

However, Bush said: "The vast majority of the British team are in the same position. Only three people, including Adrian, are getting notable support."

In Australia, central government has allocated Aus\$250,000 (£114,000) for leading swimmers this year. This is distributed on the basis of world rankings.

David Reeves, the secretary to the ASA, said he would welcome that approach in Britain. "We've received about £30,000 for our entire programme this year. That was a quarter of our needs. Of the money the Government gives to the Sports Council, the sports actually get about a quarter."

Both the Amateur Swimming Association and Paul Bush, the British team manager, who is also a member of the swimming development team at Leeds,

Police presence comes under the microscope

By JOHN GOODBODY

JOHN Carlisle, the chairman of the Conservative parliamentary committee on sport, wants the enquiry into the policing of football matches to look at the effectiveness of measures to counter hooliganism and ensure spectator safety.

The House of Commons Home Affairs committee is to examine policing arrangements and study co-operation with forces abroad, in the light of the return of English clubs to European competitions. MPs will also look at how the recommendations of the Taylor Report into the Hillsborough disaster are being implemented.

Carlisle said that the policing of football matches, sometimes involving 10,000 officers on Saturday afternoons, puts "a great strain" on having adequate

policing of other areas of society. It is believed that it is costing the taxpayer more than £35 million a year.

Football only pays for the deployment of officers inside the ground, with the Football Trust contributing two-thirds of the cost, up to a limit, and the individual clubs finding the rest.

However, Tom Pendry, the chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party's sports committee, said: "There is no rational reason for the escalation of charges inside the ground, particularly given the present lack of incidents there."

Pendry, the MP for Stalybridge and Hyde, said in relation to the cost of policing outside the ground, that these figures would be unnoticed at other sports events.

Pressure on Wales to improve drug testing

By JOHN GOODBODY

THE Sports Council for Wales yesterday threatened to withdraw all financial aid to the Welsh Commonwealth Games and unless that included the adoption of these recommendations, it will withhold financial assistance for the 1994 Games in Victoria, Canada.

Tom Baxter-Wright, the chairman of the review group, said: "The council regrets this may be necessary but it feels strongly that it must do everything in its power to improve matters for future Games."

Other recommendations include the appointment of a professional fund raiser, a complete overhaul of the council's organisation and constitution, and selection to be passed down to the individual sports.

SPORTS COUNCIL

FOR THE RECORD

REAL TENNIS

STOCKHOLM: French Open men's champion Andre Agassi (USA) vs. Andre Agassi (USA), 6-1, 6-2, 6-2.

STOCKHOLM: French Open women's champion Steffi Graf (GER) vs. Steffi Graf (GER), 6-1, 6-2, 6-2.

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Kelly may miss final Cup event

By PETER BRYAN

SEAN Kelly was undecided last night whether to turn up for the final Perrier World Cup race on Saturday, a time-trial at Nuneaton, France. There is general concern among professional riders that their racing season is too long.

Kelly, of Ireland, the World Cup winner last year and presently third in the standings, Gianni Bugno, of Italy, started this season's programme on February 2 but missed four qualifying events with a multiple fracture of his collar bone.

He is among half a dozen of the world's top riders seeking to have the international programme cut by a month. "It is almost impossible for us to hold their form for nine months of the year," he said.

PARIS: The programme for next year's Tour de France was announced yesterday. The 198 competitors will ride on flat country for 11 days before tackling the mountains.

ITERNARY: July 6: Prologue in Lyon (5.30 individual time trial); July 7: 1st stage: Lyon to Lyon (120km), 2nd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 3rd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 4th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 5th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 6th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 7th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 8th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 9th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 10th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 11th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 12th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 13th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 14th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 15th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 16th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 17th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 18th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 19th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 20th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 21st stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 22nd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 23rd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 24th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 25th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 26th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 27th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 28th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 29th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 30th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 31st stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 32nd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 33rd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 34th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 35th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 36th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 37th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 38th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 39th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 40th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 41st stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 42nd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 43rd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 44th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 45th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 46th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 47th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 48th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 49th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 50th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 51st stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 52nd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 53rd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 54th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 55th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 56th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 57th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 58th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 59th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 60th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 61st stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 62nd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 63rd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 64th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 65th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 66th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 67th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 68th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 69th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 70th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 71st stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 72nd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 73rd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 74th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 75th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 76th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 77th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 78th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 79th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 80th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 81st stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 82nd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 83rd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 84th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 85th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 86th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 87th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 88th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 89th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 90th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 91st stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 92nd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 93rd stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 94th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 95th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 96th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 97th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 98th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 99th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km), 100th stage: Brignoles to Chateau (140km).

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